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NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

'ARAFAT VISIT SHEDS LIGHT ON SOVIET POLICIES

London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic No 90, 31 Oct-6 Nov 81 p 22

[Article by Ilyas Harfush: "In Response to the U.S.-Israeli Strategic Agreement: What Do the Soviets Expect from 'Arafat in Return for the 'Palestinian Embassy' in Moscow?"]

[Text] The basic question which is being asked by diplomatic circles in the Arab world, after the level of Palestinian representation in Moscow was raised to the status of an embassy, is as follows: What did the Soviets extract from Mr Yasir 'Arafat in return for this diplomatic victory? Or more properly speaking, what is the new pro-Soviet step that was taken by the PLO in order for it to obtain this new and higher level of diplomatic representation which Moscow had been hesitating to grant to the PLO in spite of the fact that the PLO has had an office in the Soviet capital since 1976?

There are many reasons for the existence of this question which has been circulating among Western diplomatic circles in the capitals of the Arab world. The Soviet Union had been making it a condition that the PLO form a government in exile before agreeing to convert its office in Moscow into an "embassy." The reason for this was that embassy status "was given only to governments, and not to organizations," as the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs used to advise the PLO. In this area the Soviet Union is considered to be one of the countries which most zealously adheres to diplomatic practices. The Soviet Union maintained this position even though three other nations in Eastern Europe had already raised the PLO office [in their capitals] to the level of an embassy. These countries were Bulgaria, Romania, and East Germany. Also, the Soviet Union continually strove to maintain a balance between all of the Palestinian organizations (Fatah and the others). It was cautious about taking any step which appeared to be a personal victory for Mr 'Arafat over other Palestinian leaders or [political] orientations. There is no doubt about the fact that the diplomatic victory which was achieved by the PLO in Moscow last week was a personal victory for Abu 'Ammar just as much as it was a victory for the PLO.

The issue of raising the level of Palestinian representation of the PLO office in Moscow has been brought up before the Kremlin since 1978, that is, since the last meeting which took place between Chairman Brezhnev and Mr 'Arafat. The PLO office in Moscow had been accredited with the Committee of Afro-Asian Solidarity, rather than with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as is the case with diplomatic missions. Although this step taken by Moscow is considered to be merely a symbolic one because it does not mean much as far as the good bilateral

relations between Moscow and the PLO are concerned, it does provide a number of indications concerning the new orientation which Moscow wishes to follow in its policy in the Middle East. This orientation is a result of the current circumstances in the Arab world and the pressures being faced by the PLO, and Mr 'Arafat personally, in view of the failure of the peace process in the Middle East.

Moscow has reaffirmed "its commitment to the Palestinian cause and its firm position concerning defending the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to the establishment of their own state." The joint communique after the Palestinian-Soviet talks also came out with the following: "Leonid Brezhnev made reference to the struggle being waged by the Palestinian people to achieve their firmly-established national rights, and said that this struggle had earned the respect and sympathy of the whole world. The Palestinian people have achieved considerable success through this struggle and have advanced to the forefront of the Arab liberation movement. Their political vanguard, that is, the PLO, has acquired broad international recognition as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people." In return for this Abu 'Ammar emphasized the importance of the proposal put forth by Moscow which concerns the holding of an international conference concerning the Middle East "with the participation of all parties concerned, including the PLO." This assertion on the part of the PLO is not considered to be anything new. On many occasions Mr 'Arafat has indicated that the PLO supports the Soviet proposal for a solution [to the Middle East problem]. The reason is that this proposal conforms to the objectives of the PLO concerning participation in the peace process--participation which had been excluded from this peace process within the framework of Camp David and other U.S. plans for a settlement. This proposal also conforms to the objectives of Moscow in terms of having Moscow play a role in the peace process in the Middle East--after Moscow also had been excluded from this. With the exception of support for this Soviet plan, there is nothing new in the joint communique in terms of positions taken by the PLO. Abu 'Ammar, while in Moscow, even refused to give a clear answer concerning the issue of the government in exile--an issue which for years has been considered to be a pending question. His answer concerning this matter was as follows: "If, during any stage of our struggle, we decide that it is necessary to form a government, then we will do so. But this is a matter which concerns the Palestinian leaders." What this means is that the government in exile will have no connection at all with the Palestinian "embassy" in Moscow.

Soviet Response

Arab observers in Moscow feel that the raising of the level of the PLO office to the status of an embassy is considered to be a direct Soviet response to the strategic alliance which was announced during the meeting between President Reagan and Prime Minister Begin in Washington during September. They say that the Soviet Union wants to plunge back into the Middle Eastern arena in force, and that the Soviet Union wants to do so by means of new diplomatic initiatives which strengthen its position vis-a-vis the Arabs in the conflict with Israel and expects the support of the PLO in this regard. The Soviets know that the U.S. right now is undertaking efforts to consolidate its positions in the Arab world, especially in Egypt after the assassination of President Sadat. Furthermore, there is also growing sympathy on the part of the West toward the idea

of having the Palestinians participate in the peace process and the necessity of establishing a political dialogue with the PLO. For this reason, Moscow feels that it is in its interest, under these circumstances, to "compete" with this Western trend by means of taking a new step which would reaffirm the Soviet Union's total commitment to the PLO. The joint communique emphasized this "Hostile U.S. campaign" against the Arab world, especially against Egypt and Libya.

In addition to this, Moscow is anxious to prevent any possible or probable dialogue between Washington and the PLO, whether it is held through intermediaries or through direct but unannounced means. The reason for this is that Moscow considers the PLO to be the basic partner and real guarantee for any Soviet role to be played in the peace process in the Middle East. For this reason Abu 'Ammar's assertion that "the proposals of the Soviet Union for achieving peace must be the basis for a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East" is considered to be tantamount to once again giving recognition to the Soviet role which Moscow feared that the Palestinians had either already forgotten or ignored during the deluge of initiatives from the West, particularly the European initiative which the European Council of Ministers is attempting to revive by means of the visit of Lord Carrington, the British minister of foreign affairs, to Saudi Arabia.

Prince Fahd's Plan

Was there a discussion between Brezhnev and 'Arafat concerning the plan of Prince Fahd, the Saudi heir to the throne, for a settlement to the conflict in the Middle East?

The communique published concerning the discussions makes no clear reference in this regard, although diplomatic circles in Moscow consider it unlikely that Abu 'Ammar would not have "inquired about" the opinion of the Kremlin leadership concerning this matter. The only thing published in the final communique concerning what Brezhnev and 'Arafat said about this matter was the fact that they emphasized the importance of "cooperation and supporting joint positions taken by the Arab countries." Abu 'Ammar also made reference to the fact that the Israelis rejected the Saudi crown prince's plan and that "there is no indication that the U.S. agrees to this plan." As we know, 'Arafat has already announced his support for the 8-point plan proposed by Prince Fahd.

Mr Muhammad 'Ashir, director of the PLO office in Moscow, now has the status of ambassador. He is now the PLO's fifteenth "ambassador." The nations which have already preceded the Soviet Union in granting the PLO office the status of an embassy are Romania, East Germany, Bulgaria, the Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, India, Iran, Kenya, Malaysia, Pakistan, Senegal, Sri Lanka, and Tanzania. The two PLO offices in Austria and Spain have been granted semi-diplomatic status. As we know, the PLO office in Vienna has no director at the present time--ever since Mr Ghazi Husayn was expelled from the Austrian capital after the discovery of the operation of smuggling weapons into Austria last summer. Also, the new socialist government of Greece has expressed its desire to raise the level of the PLO office in Athens to the status of an embassy.

There have been many reactions to the diplomatic victory achieved by the PLO in Moscow last week. The U.S. Department of State said that it considered this Soviet diplomatic recognition of the PLO to be something which "does not contribute to the peace process in the Middle East." Israel considered the new step taken by Moscow to be "meaningless" because relations between the Soviets and the Palestinians have always been good, with or without the existence of an embassy. As we know, relations between Moscow and Tel Aviv have been broken off since the 1967 June War.

In the realm of Soviet weapons provided to the PLO, Chairman Brezhnev promised Mr 'Arafat that he would provide the Palestinian resistance with new advanced weapons, especially ground defense weapons and long-range artillery. This is to be done "in order to provide support to the Palestinian resistance in the face of Israeli aggression in the south of Lebanon."

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CSO: 4404/119

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

JAPANESE, CHINESE, ARAB COOPERATION FOSTERED

Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic No 244, 24 Oct 81 p 65

[Article: "Japanese Plan for Collaboration of Chinese Resources, Japanese Technology, and Arab Capital"]

[Text] Will the day come when Arab capital enters China's markets?

This is what is being attempted by the Nomura Securities Co., a Japanese investment firm, which presently is working on a project which requires combining Arab capital with Japanese technology within the framework of joint investments with China in the Chinese industrial sector.

This plan which is currently under study must go through various stages before it can become a reality. But so far it has already gone several steps along the way to achieving this, as is evidenced by the following:

1. The Nomura Co., which is concerned with the project, has organized two visits to China for Japanese businessmen and business managers. During these visits they created the bases for proposed cooperation between the three parties concerned and between the sectors in which the cooperative effort could take place.
2. The Nomura Co. has realized that, in this proposed project, if the Arabs are to provide the investment capital and the Chinese are to provide cheap Chinese labor and the natural resources available in China, then Japan will have to furnish, to the project, its expertise in the fields of financing and technical and economic studies and will have to contract to import to the Japanese market what is produced by the factories dealt with in the project.
3. The sectors to be covered by the plan are those of light industries, especially those producing lumber, textiles, and small machinery and equipment. These are industrial sectors which do not require huge outlays of capital, and the marketing of the products involved in these sectors is easier than marketing products from the heavy industry sectors.

Japanese who are in favor of this project are counting on being able to attract abundant Arab capital to the markets of the Far East and are counting on this

capital being willing to diversify the markets of its investments. However, the great obstacle which stands in the way of this operation is the fact that the Arab countries and Arab investors are apprehensive about taking the step of investing in a nation such as China since no one knows when and in what direction China's political and economic orientation might change.

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EGYPT'S CAMP DAVID POLICY CRITICIZED

London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic No 90, 31 Oct-6 Nov 81 p 9

[Editorial]

[Text] Many of us still remember the title of the book which appeared a few years ago in the West and which caused a lot of commotion and caused a lot of eyebrows to be raised due to the opinions, analyses, and predictions in the book which dealt with Israel's situation and future in the Middle East. The title of the book was "Israel in Danger of Peace."

The content of this book showed that Israel fears a real and comprehensive peace and that Israel actually is growing, prospering, and expanding under the circumstances of a continual confrontation, particularly because the U.S. provides large-scale and fundamental support to Israel and for its military operations. This book also clearly shows that a real and comprehensive peace--and there can be no real peace unless the Arabs are strong and united in solidarity--would cause Israel to "dissolve" in the midst of the nations of the region and cause it to lose the basic elements of the role which it plays--a role which is based on continual aggression, expansion, and racism.

The late President Sadat thought that he could play this game of peace with Israel, that he could do so alone, and that he could defeat Israel in its own backyard. Sadat was familiar with the book "Israel in Danger of Peace," and he once mentioned this fact to a journalist. Sadat thought that he could bring about the downfall of Begin inside Israel itself if he remained intransigent in the positions he took when negotiating with Egypt. He also thought that he would be able to convince the Israelis themselves that Egypt wants peace and that this would be enough to bring the conflict, in its entirety, out of the vicious circle which it is in. But Sadat failed to achieve this although he conceded a great deal to Israel and to Begin. He was not successful in changing the mentality of the Israelis, and he was of course not able to destroy it. Furthermore, he was not able to bring about the downfall of Begin, in spite of all of the actions and behavior of the latter, because the overwhelming majority of the Israelis are like Begin, whether or not they put on masks and silk gloves. He also was not able to convince the Israelis that Egypt wants peace because the Israelis are not won over by flexibility. And he was not able to bring the conflict, in its entirety, out of the vicious circle that it is in because

Egypt by itself, in spite of everything which it represents, does not constitute the entire conflict. Sadat also died without being able to obtain any tangible concessions from the Israelis concerning the Palestinians.

It is clear now, from the many statements which Husni Mubarak has made, that the new Egyptian president is not easily and actually able to free himself from the commitments of the Camp David treaty. This is why he has said that Egypt is not prepared to have a reconciliation with the Arabs at the expense of the Camp David policy or at the expense of peace with Israel. As for the media war between Egypt and the Arab countries, he has concluded a truce but, as long as he follows the Camp David policy, he will not be able to change the situation from being a truce situation to being one of peace. Mubarak alone will not be able to achieve what Sadat was not able to achieve because the achievement of this requires Arab power which is united in solidarity.

This is why Prince Fahd's initiative is so important. This initiative aims at achieving a just and comprehensive peace which would strengthen the Arabs rather than weaken them and would strengthen them vis-a-vis themselves, Israel, and the rest of the world. This is why this initiative now has become a basis of discussion in talks held by all of the world leaders who are concerned with the future of the Middle East.

9458

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UNIFICATION OF MUSLIM EFFORTS ON JERUSALEM STEPPED UP

Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic No 244, 24 Oct 81 p 18

[Article by Hani Khayr: "Qasim al-Rimawi Tells AL-MUSTAQBAL About a New Plan to Reactivate the Issue of Jerusalem"]

[Text] Amman--These days Jerusalem is being crushed by the yoke of a most vicious occupation and is the victim of the most malicious types of conspiracies which have the objective of destroying its people, its Arab identity, and its sanctity. The Arabs are crying out, but how quickly people forget. And the world, if it hears anything at all, probably only hears the sound of Zionist screeching. Our people continue to be the victim of a great plot which aims at uprooting them by eliminating the Arab presence in the Holy City.

The Royal Committee for Jerusalem Affairs has a plan which has the objective of stirring emotions and awakening consciences among international circles as well as arousing the feelings of Arabs and Muslims in order to confront them with their historic responsibilities. This plan consists of forming a committee of international figures who would take up the issue of Jerusalem and bring it up before international gatherings and assemblies. By doing this, perhaps they could bring back to life the conscience of the world which has died. In order to shed some light on this new plan it was necessary to conduct this interview with Dr Qasim al-Rimawi, chairman of the Royal Committee for Jerusalem Affairs.

Dr al-Rimawi said that these Friends of Jerusalem will be chosen from among international personalities who represent various scientific and academic specializations and fields of work. He said that the purpose will be to have them propagate the cause of Jerusalem as follows:

1. Striving through different means to keep the cause of Jerusalem alive in people's hearts and acquainting world public opinion--both popular and official--with the city of Jerusalem, its history, the Arabs' right to Jerusalem, and the dangers which threaten Jerusalem--particularly the changing of its social make-up and the make-up of its population and the attempts to falsify and violate the city's heritage.
2. Providing consultation and assistance in the gathering of information, records, documents, and photographs from various periods of history having to

do with Jerusalem and encouraging the conducting of research and studies concerning historical facts which have to do with the city as well as the restoration of its monuments and protection of its heritage.

3. Political participation as well as participation on the part of the media and the Arab nations in supporting the inhabitants of Arab Jerusalem and supporting the cause of Jerusalem and its Arab identity.

4. Local and international participation in the holding of conferences and symposiums and the organizing of lectures and exhibits concerning Jerusalem, as well as the organizing of small permanent and mobile work groups which would explain the Jerusalem issue and the justice of the Arab position. These Friends of Jerusalem should meet at least once a year at the invitation of the Royal Committee for Jerusalem Affairs. The Royal Committee should also establish an office which will be responsible for concluding agreements, conducting follow-up work, and providing financing for all of the activities carried on by the Friends of Jerusalem. We asked Dr al-Rimawi: "Is there any means available to put a stop to the Judaization of Jerusalem, as a quick and initial measure, before Jerusalem is liberated?" He answered: "Before I answer this question, it is necessary for me to familiarize people interested in this matter with the truth concerning the process of Judaization of the Holy City so that they can realize how quickly the Judaization of Jerusalem is taking place and how quickly the make-up of the Holy City is being changed. At the same time they should realize the seriousness of the Arab resolutions which have been made with regard to the Jerusalem issue."

"Ever since Israel occupied the city it has had the intention of expelling the Arabs, Judaizing the city, obliterating its civilization, destroying the city's Arab economy, changing the city's make-up, terrorizing and driving out its inhabitants, bringing in Jews to take their place, applying Israeli law in the regions annexed by Israel, and eliminating military rule and Jordanian laws in the occupied territories and replacing them with Israeli laws. All of this is being done for the purpose of total Judaization of the city. The city has even been declared a united city, has been made Israel's eternal capital, and has been ringed with Jewish settlements."

"The Arab resolutions have always been tantamount to mere reactions to measures taken by the Israelis. The Arabs have managed to extract resolutions from international bodies which strongly condemn the fact that the Israeli occupation authorities are continuing to conduct excavations in Jerusalem and which demand that they immediately cease these excavations. They have also extracted resolutions concerning the halting of all cultural, technical, and financial assistance which international bodies were providing to Israel."

Dr al-Rimawi added: "Muslims and Arabs have not shown concern, to the degree that it was hoped that they would, regarding the issue of the occupation of Jerusalem by the Zionists. The Muslims should realize that the Zionist danger is a constant danger and that it amounts to an attempt to destroy the Holy City's Islamic identity. They must unite their ranks in order to act both forcefully and effectively."

BRIEFS

KUWAITI LOAN FOR RWANDA--An agreement has been signed between Rwanda and the Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development by which the Fund will loan 1.2 million Kuwaiti Dinars as part of the financing of the "Kaigali-Kanumbi" international airport project. The loan agreement was signed on behalf of Rwanda by its ambassador in Cairo, Ansunir Simone, and on behalf of the KFAED by 'Abd al-Latif Yusef al-Hamad, minister of finance and planning, and chairman of the Fund's board of directors. The project consists of strengthening the present runway, expanding the hanger, and building a new passenger terminal, with suitable equipment, along with an electricity station and fuel storage facilities. The total costs of the project are estimated at KD 10.9 million; the Fund's loan covers about 11 percent of this. It is expected that the project will be completed during the last part of 1983. The loan period is 24 years, including a 4-year grace period. Its payments will be 40 semi-annual installments, and the date of the first installment will be 15 August 1985 and the last 15 February 2005. The interest on the loan is 2 percent per year, including .5 percent annually to cover administrative expenses. [Text] [Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 15 Oct 81 p 8] 7005

CSO: 4404/83

DJERABA INTERVIEWED ON IDEALS, PRACTICE OF MASS ORGANIZATIONS

Algiers REVOLUTION AFRICAINE in French No 929, 11-17 Dec 81 pp 11-15

[Interview by Zahir Gadouche with Mohamed Djeraba, member of the Central Committee and chairman of the General Organization of the FLN; date and place not given]

[Text] "No One Can Say that We Have Not Respected the Principles of Democracy"

Never have congresses of mass organizations aroused so much interest as those that are under preparation. The absolute principle is being applied that these meetings should not be distorted or suffer the counterblows of negative actions resulting from stubborn attachment to outmoded concepts and certain bad habits, and everything is being done in order for them to take place under the best possible conditions, quite simply as a response to the new phase that the country is going through.

This stage, whose linear character is indisputable, is marked by a number of elements that are decisive for the country. Thus, things have evolved in such a way that it has proved imperative to create all the conditions for a better adaptation to the political and organizational situation that prevails in Algeria.

The reorganization of the party that took place after its fourth congress, which produced a Political Directorate, constitutes the last stage of the completion of the national institutions. It is obvious that other, equally important stages should correspond to this phase. The process thus started should not mark time, since a pause could be interpreted as the rupture of an excessively far-reaching action.

Completion of the building of the institutions has had repercussions not only at the top of the pyramid, but also at the rank-and-file level, where establishment of the structures has made it possible to profoundly redynamize the party, which, it must be kept in mind, draws its strength from the solidity of its popular roots.

Concretely taking on its vanguard role, the FLN, which is "no longer a party of power but a party in power," rests on an ideological and political base whose clarity is undeniable. Nevertheless, as the National Charter states, it has to rid itself "of all those who transgress the principles of the Revolution or compromise its ideals."

The National Organizations, constituting the extension of the party, and in many regards the fundamental bases on which it rests, have it as their essential task to



act by the line of the FLN and to apply its ideology correctly. That is why it is entirely necessary for these organizations to strengthen themselves by their mobilization capacities and by the unitary spirit that must animate them.

Receiving us in his office in Place Emir Abdelkader, Mohamed Djeraba, member of the Central Committee chairman of the party's General Organization, talked with us for more than 2 hours about a number of questions related to the functioning, the mechanisms and the activities of the party. With an approach that evidences profound knowledge of the problems of the hour, Mr Djeraba attempted, throughout the interview, to define the principal guidelines that the party has set for itself.

First of all, speaking of the preparation for the congresses of the mass organizations, Djeraba told us: "We have adopted the usual procedure whereby the national congresses themselves set the dates and the themes of their congresses." Have the OM's [Mass Organizations] carried out their mandate? These meetings fall within a statutory framework, since in 1982, the OM's are supposed to generate some new bodies. But the most important thing is to be able to master all the strong points and all the weak points. This is an entirely conventional approach. Therefore, the diagnoses have to be prepared and analysis done in function of the resolutions adopted and the recommendations made on the occasion of the preceding congresses--what has been done and what remains to be done, the difficulties encountered, the conditions of application of the programs of action previously adopted, so as to overcome all the obstacles that have arisen, of an organizational or other nature.

It is obvious that in 4 years, the needs and the objectives of yesterday will not be those of tomorrow. This imposes, in any case, a certain planning and a high level of reflection that must have a general character from a point of view that I would not call futuristic but that must take the future into account.

There is no lack of examples. Thus the productive strength of the workers, the dimension of the national enterprises are not identical to those that existed 5 years ago.

Thus, the needs of the workers yesterday are not those of today. That is one of the reasons why it has been decided to set up a national commission responsible for following the congresses. The main reason lies in an organic and organizational imbalance, if I may put it that way, between the framework that was set up 5 years ago and the upheavals that have occurred since.

The Fourth Congress of the FLN, which completed the institutions, the extraordinary congress that adopted the plan, the multiple decisions and resolutions of the Central Committee--these are elements that require a certain harmony between the party's doctrinal content and the by-laws as well as the future missions of the mass organizations.

Secondly, it was necessary to plan all action during a limited time period, which required permanent concertation in the face of the need to create an adequate framework.

In the third place, evaluation of the political-social and cultural situations have to be viewed from the angle of the Central Committee's decisions; in the fourth place, an overall survey had to be done, with comparison of the experiences of the ones and of the others so as to draw the most appropriate and correct lessons in order to set up a new structuring; and fifthly, all structuring can be perfected and evolves in function of the economic and sociocultural environment of the country and is based on two cardinal principles: each organization must be present where necessary--the UGTA [General Union of Algerian Workers] among the workers, the UNPA [National Union of Algerian Peasants] among the peasants, etc--and it is the central structure that will underpin authority at the level of the decision centers situated at the committee and wilaya levels.

I must say that not all the OM's are necessarily going to be based on the same aspects and will not all follow the same concept. Each in its own domain will have to master the terrain and be more representative. It is a fact that for many reasons, these organizations have not been able to achieve all their objectives. Nevertheless, if the complexity of the tasks and the difficulties they have been confronted with are taken into account, it can be declared without risk of deceiving ourselves that the results are not so negative as is thought.

The preparation for these congresses is adhering to a number of rules previously set out--in particular, the rule that consists in encouraging the creative spirit, in-depth analysis of all the aspects that their organizations experience. This is indeed an approach that we adopted after discussion within the commission which, I remind you, also includes the secretaries general of the OM's. I should add parenthetically here that an organization such as the UGTA, even though it has its own traditions, its cadres, can give the other organizations the benefit of its experiences.

[Question] What is the link between the preparation commission and the national councils? Is there no substitution?

[Answer] It should be made clear that the executive committee of the UGTA and the national councils of each organization are sovereign and free to decide on their dates, their keynotes, to adopt the themes and set up the number of committees and working groups that they consider necessary. Until the contrary is proved, it is the UNPA council that decided on the keynotes and the date of the congress, and the same is true for the UGTA and the UNJA [National Union of Algerian Youth].

A directive to that effect has been sent out to the rank and file, stressing a sacred principle: absolute respect for the constitution of each organization, no matter what problems and difficulties are encountered. We have affirmed, declared and maintained the rule that each problem that arises within an organization must be resolved only in accordance with the operating rules of each organization.

No one will be able to say that we have not scrupulously respected this principle, which, moreover, is highly respected within the framework of the party itself. It is very correct that if the FLN transgresses such a rule of conduct at any level whatsoever, it is not that the democratic principles will be jeopardized; rather, its own discipline will be altered.

[Question] But hasn't Article 20 overturned democratic life?

[Answer] As regards that aspect of the question, decried on the pretext that it was negatively applied, I must say that all in all, there are only a few cadres whom we regret. And we regret it all the more in that they could strengthen the rank and file of the FLN. Worse still, I wonder whether all the members of the mass organizations are effectively taking an active part within the rank and file of the party.

In addition, if one considers the totality of the criticisms expressed on the subject of Article 20, the conclusion that one could draw from them is that in the last analysis it has been considered very poorly, notably as regards its two sections, the first of which specifies the mass organizations' role of impulsion, orientation and monitoring, "without substituting for them," while the second states the necessity of the presence of an FLN member. Now in order to understand the object of the second section, it is necessary first of all to read the first one, the one being interconnected with the other. In other words, if the first is not applied as regards nonsubstitution, the second no longer has its *raison d'être*.

In brief, the presence of a party member constitutes a guarantee against the abuses of power possible while at the same time ensuring a role of animation, impulsion, orientation and monitoring. In addition, the legitimacy of Article 20 is on a triple plane: historical, ideological and organizational.

Why has this provision of the party's constitution been made a pet topic, basically aimed at diverting the discussions? This is the question posed--a question of great seriousness. It is of interest to specify that this provision has always been applied and that the Central Committee has only confirmed the situation. Furthermore, it was considered that that political space had to be guaranteed in writing--whence, rightly, the article, of which we have avoided an administrative interpretation.

[Question] In the same order of ideas, what type of relations should exist between the party and the mass organizations?

[Answer] On the level of the logic of a party in power, it cannot have a structure without extension of it. This is the present pattern of the party and of the OM's. And what is politically new since the last congress of the FLN is the principle of distribution of tasks among all the members, from the Political Directorate to the level of the secretaries of the Mouhafadhas, the secretaries general of the OM's, the members of the government and the permanent structures of the Central Committee.

Now on the level of political principle, we all come under the same body, we all receive the same orientations, we decide on the same policy and we do not apply the same directives in the same way. It is here that the hierarchical power intervenes to separate a higher body from a complementary parallel body and a third, subordinate one. In principle, the existence of Central Committee members within the national secretariats should theoretically put an end to the false debates and the ill-intentioned controversies according to which the party is Prussianizing the mass organizations. Consequently, the idea of substitution and of organic control is superfluous. The hierarchy remains at present, especially as regards coordination, which is aimed at safeguarding the party's general political line. Furthermore, this rule has to be respected, as I have already said, vis-a-vis ourselves as well as vis-a-vis others.

Necessary Coordination

Coordination is necessary especially at the level of the big national operations (the plan, voluntary military service, debates on national proposals submitted to the rank and file), especially when it is a matter of modulating excesses or correcting deviations, both of which can have direct repercussions on the life of the party.

In the last analysis, in relation to whom and to what is democracy defined?

Democracy is an expression of one man, one vote. Democracy is sensitivity to opinions, it is confrontation between knowledge and ideas within an organically situated framework. It must be said that it is a philosophy that has made progress since the canonists of the Middle Ages.

As for ourselves, we consider that the cultural area, long considered a taboo subject, has aroused some very profound debates at the rank-and-file level. What democracy, then, are we talking about? One cannot be with the government in power when the results elicit congratulations and criticize the very foundation of that government when one believes it is bad or does not fit a certain way of looking at things.

Then it will no longer be sensitivities that are expressed but rather factional tendencies. I would say too that it is legitimate to be able to question the way of posing our problems, of reflecting on them and solving them. It is in fact a matter of reflecting a bit more on our way of life.

Have there really been general assemblies of militants within which important subjects are discussed? This, I believe, is what the problem of democratic life should be posed on, for it is at that level that it will be possible to take the measure in the most authentic manner.

It must be agreed that one cannot base the explanation of a situation on the fact that it has a social or cultural character.

What counts mainly is the way of conceiving it, tackling it, debating it and settling it. There is all the same a logic in a single part in power, which implies a certain self-discipline.

The mass organizations are therefore permitted political liberty to enable them to express themselves in function of their specificity. But their action must take account of their respective congresses and of the general policy line, although it is perhaps normal to encourage initiatives, on condition that they are taken within a purely organizational framework.

It is a commonplace to say that our country is subjected to a profound mutation on all levels, mutation that requires the institutions to renew themselves constantly. The number of young people attending the universities is close to 80,000, and it is normal for new problems to arise. The same is the case with the young people who attend the mosques, and because of this, it is important for it to be stressed, in the cultural area, that these institutions act in the direction of the emancipation of man by demystification. All the same, this has given rise to speculations on the left and on the right, without the position of the FLN ever being situated. One could expostulate on this subject at great length. But on the real level, the organizational one, the essential basis is the National Charter. And one should avoid speculating about its content or catalogue one view or another as being of the right or of the left.

As for ourselves, we prefer to give priority to discipline and action, consolidation and perfection of the most adequate cadre, enabling the individual to express himself, the way in which the institutions fit into one another from the top to the rank and file, strictness of functioning, calmness of execution--all these things are important to us, without any pretense of philosophy.

[Question] The last national council of the UNJA aroused some very diverse interpretations. What exactly was there in this?

[Answer] Within the framework of the planning proposed by the National Commission responsible for monitoring the congresses, each national secretariat had sovereignly proposed the date for a national council called specially for preparing for the congress. Thus were held the executive-committee meetings and national councils of the UGTA, the UNPA, the UNFA [National Union of Algerian Women], the ONM [National Veterans' Organization] and the UNJA. The agenda comprised the essential points--that is, preparation for the organization's meetings.

The experience of the UNPA, which is presently in the process of designating its congress participants, has been especially useful to us. Thus, in order to avoid heavy and bureaucratic procedures, had it as their duty to reflect on the way they considered best for preparing for their coming sessions. The debate that had been

engaged within the UNJA body after the intervention of the official from the permanent secretariat of the Central Committee actually involved only a question of procedure, of form, that concerned no one other than the members.

Preserving the Unity of the Youth

Was it necessary to debate and evaluate the action of the organization and then propose the guidelines of discussion, or was it necessary to prepare for the council, like the others, so as to make it a basis for discussion, to enable each member to enrich, to amend and to link his specific problems to the proposals that would be presented and debated at the rank-and-file level?

To sum it up, the way in which this agenda had to be approached was up to the council and only the council, of course, on the secretariat's proposal.

The debates, which some considered quite turbulent, took place in accordance with custom and habitual routine. If some believe that the proceedings of the other mass organizations were characterized by unconditional "yeses," they deceive themselves heavily and are honestly ignorant of at least underestimate [as published] the political maturity and the sense of responsibility of the cadres who direct the mass organizations.

This said, what surprised me most is the way in which people neglected to follow the proceedings of the three national councils, which besides were very instructive for all of us, and more particularly, I must acknowledge the CEN [National Executive Commission] of the UGTA, which, strong in its traditions and in its membership, has never shirked its positions when they had to be taken.

Therefore the intent with which the facts were reported leads me to pose a number of questions. Furthermore, it is the first time that a journalistic technique has been used on the subject of a national council of a mass organization--that is, the detailed reproduction . a debate which on reading seems incomplete and which leaves the readers extremely perplexed. Thus, one cannot help but ask oneself an ineluctable question: against whom and to whose benefit is the account directed? I would hope that it was to the benefit of our democratic life.

In any case, the task of sovereignly evaluating the content of such an account is left to the members of the council. For our part, we continue to proclaim that the council is sovereign and that we will take account of the opinion of the majority of its members. Our objective is preservation of the unity of the youth and the consolidation of their movement.

A motion of support spontaneously drafted and signed by more than a majority of the members of the national council of the UNJA was addressed to the party, which is still receiving, every day, telegrams from the unions of the wilayas in which the attempts to divide the youth are denounced and the necessity of mobilizing against all diversionary maneuvers is asserted.

11267
CSO: 4519/70

PLANNING MINISTER BRAHIMI INTERVIEWED ON RESTRUCTURING OF NATIONAL ENTERPRISES

Algiers REVOLUTION AFRICAINE in French No 929, 11-17 Dec 81 pp 21-22

[Interview with Abdelhamid Brahimi, member of the Central Committee of the FLN and minister of planning and national development; date and place not given]

[Text] As the year 1981 draws to an end, it is customary to draw up a balance-sheet of all the activities and thinking that have been done to improve the degree of organization of our economy and raise its level of performance.

The public enterprises, essential elements of our national production apparatus, have been given special attention so that they can take firm root as the driving force for building up and supporting the country's social advancement.

On their efficiency and organization depends the success of the development effort written into the 5-year plan.

This is the angle from which one must view the political decision to restructure the enterprises.

Abdelhamid Brahimi, member of the Central Committee and minister of planning and national development, has kindly given us an up-to-date review of the situation, as chairman of the National Restructuring Committee.

[Question] Before you define for us the content, goal and scope of the restructuring of the country's economy, would you please, Mr Minister, review for us the factors that are at the course of this decision?

[Answer] The factors that have led to the restructuring arise from the desire by the Political Directorate of the FLN party to evaluate rigorously and systematically the economic and social situation of the country.

This balance-sheet has made it possible to bring out a number of problems with which the socialist enterprises are confronted:

- insufficient clarity about the enterprises' areas of responsibility;
- the multiplicity of the missions and activities carried on by the enterprises;
- overlapping of fields of activity among the various structures;
- the excessive size reached by the enterprises;

--concentration of the cadres within the general managements (headquarters) to the detriment of the production units;

--employment of a large proportion of staff in activities not directly connected with production.

This has led to considering the enterprise's autonomy and the decentralization of responsibilities as totally illusory and to simply justifying the enterprises' previous performance weakness as well as their lack of efficiency.

In this regard, it is perhaps a good idea to recall that the socialist enterprise is the principal agent of execution of the plan. It is naturally the place of convergence of the great planning measures that must, within the framework of the elaboration of a plan, enable it to organize itself and act with a view to achieving the objectives of the economic policy decided on. It goes without saying that the progress of the economy as a whole depends on the progress made by the enterprises in the matter of organization and operations.

During the first years of their creation, the organizational structures of the socialist enterprises fell within the framework of the process to recover the national resources and launch the first big investment programs. Those enterprises gradually found themselves charged with the development of one or more branches of the economy.

In addition, they tended more and more to take on responsibility for many activities both in the areas connected with their principal activity (marketing, transportation) and in other areas (occupational training, housing, leisure activities, health).

This multiplication of activities naturally led to the setting-up of productive-activity organizational structures that proved inappropriate. Thus there came about a concentration of activities that resulted in clumsiness in the functioning of the enterprises and constituted an obstacle to implementation of a real policy of decentralization at the level of the production units and to improvement of the conditions of management of the productive apparatus.

In sum, the restructuring is therefore aimed at improving the operating conditions of the enterprises through promotion of forms of organization that make it possible to reduce costs and raise productivity, which implies a greater mastery of the production apparatus, maximum utilization of capacities, better organization of work, etc.

It is also aimed at strengthening the planning discipline by adherence to the objectives decided on and the measures written into the plan.

[Question] The restructuring of the enterprises is very often reduced to meaning a moving or breakup of the headquarters of the national companies. Would you, Mr Minister, like to give us some details about its exact provisions?

[Answer] Reducing the restructuring of the enterprises to a mere moving or breakup of the national companies' headquarters amounts to a simplistic view of matters.

The restructuring is, as we have said, a set of measures whose end purpose is consolidation of the economy on all levels. The essential criteria that must guide the restructuring operations are those that favor:

--strengthening of the planned management of the economy through more precise definition of the various levels of planning, and making all operators at all levels responsible, on the basis of objectives that are clear and within the capacity of the various agents;

--satisfaction (through [as published]) of the fundamental needs of the citizen, not only as a consumer but as the vehicle and end purpose of an authentic economic and social development;

--development of the national capacities and competencies, especially in the area of the means of realization, the strengthening of which is a primary condition for achieving the objectives declared to be priority ones;

--mastery of the instruments of production;

--decentralization of the decision-making process, on which the development of regional competencies depends;

--simplification and rationalization of management at the level of all the operators, and especially at the level of the production units (a condition for greater capitalization of knowledge and for a real transfer of technology among the different economic sectors).

This shows you the scope and depth of the actions to be carried out within the framework of the restructuring.

[Question] "Accessory measures...that could not constitute preliminaries to the restructuring of the enterprises" are often cited. Is implementation of them parallel to that of the restructuring decisions made, and what different forms can they take?

[Answer] The accessory measures are not and must not be preliminaries to the restructuring, but the success of the restructuring actions is highly dependent on the setting-up of them. The remodeling of the structures must be accompanied by revision of the mechanisms that make these structures function and by adaptation of them. Our objectives through the restructuring remain clarity in management, transparency of the financial flows, autonomy of decision, assignment of responsibility, productivity, and decentralization.

To achieve these objectives, it is necessary to fulfill a number of conditions, among which we have:

--financial restructuring and financing policies;

--alleviation of procedures;

--revision of the monopoly lists and of the state monopoly's modalities of operation.

[Question] How is the financial restructuring of the deficit public enterprises being recommended?

[Answer] The financial restructuring of the public enterprises is based principally on:

--the organic-restructuring decisions which for a long period govern the questions of organization of the various functions of the enterprises, as well as the problems such as definition of assignments and responsibilities;

--the existence of instruments for management of weak enterprises; in this regard, the enterprises that are candidates for financial restructuring must first be capable of formulating short-term and medium-term programs and objectives of activity and getting together the means for conforming to them (allocation of exceptional financial resources can be done only in function of objectives in order to be effective);

--the degree of urgency of the financial problems to be dealt with in one sector or another;

--the level of the limited-savings resources that the state can mobilize each year for this operation, among the others.

[Question] What is the state of advancement of that operation, as well as the target dates for the rest of it that remains to be carried out?

[Answer] The target dates for implementation of that operation can only be scaled over several years--keeping in mind, though, the necessity of going as far as possible before the end of this plan.

Some 20 enterprises, including some of the biggest ones, are already under study today and will soon be submitted to the government for examination. The rate of analysis of the dossiers should accelerate next year in relation to the progress of planning at the level of the enterprises and the implementation of on-site organic restructuring.

[Question] Is the restructuring to be considered a sufficient condition for achievement of the objectives pursued?

[Answer] Restructuring should not be understood as independent of the rest of the actions that implementation of the 5-Year Plan requires. It therefore constitutes only one of a whole set of measures aimed at consolidating the national economy and development of the country.

This consolidation and development derive from a political will, the assertion of which must be expressed by a planned and orderly approach that brings into play the people, the material resources and the instruments necessary for achieving objectives which it is a fundamental preliminary condition to define and coordinate.

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CONFessions OF TERRORISTS

Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 26 Nov 81 pp 4-5

[Article: "Confessions of a Number of Defendants Accused of Assassinating President al-Sadat; Training in Dismantling and Assembling Weapons Took Place in Abandoned Houses; Defendant Husayn 'Abbas Climbed on the Reviewing Stand but Withdrawn When He Was Shot in the Stomach; The Plan Was Based on Broadcasting False Statements after the Assassination To Create Confusion in All State Facilities"]

[Text] AL-AKHBAR is publishing today the confessions of a number of defendants in the assassination of President Anwar al-Sadat. The defendants confessed during the investigation [words missing] how they were inspected and slipped into the military parade and how the assassination was carried out.

The investigations also show how deviant ideas and extremism influenced the plans that were made for the crime.

A Meeting in al-Dilinjat

The Confessions of 'Abd-al-Salam Faraj

The person named Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam Faraj 'Atiyyah, identity card number 12655 issued by the administrative district of al-Dilinjat, the governorate of al-Buhayrah, regarding his complicity in planning and assisting in the assassination of the president during the 6 October parade at Nasr City. On the occasion of his presence we asked him the following:

My acquaintance with Nabil al-Maghribi began less than a year ago. We discussed the matter of fighting a holy war and the matter of the idea and so on, and we came to an agreement about organizing our fellow Muslims who shared our ideas into groups. This was at the beginning of my acquaintance with Nabil. A short time after that 'Abbud al-Zumur informed me that he concurred with us, and I also met Tariq al-Zumur, and we discussed the idea together, and he too was of the same mind. Briefly, what we agreed about was that Islam was a religion and a concept of government, and we agreed that establishing an Islamic state was the duty of every Muslim. Therefore,

a Muslim had to strive to achieve that goal, even if he had to use force to do so. Since I am employed at Cairo University, I became acquainted with an instructor in the College of Science who is called Dr 'Abd-al-Majid al-Fiqi. About 8 months ago I proposed the idea to him, and he became convinced of it. He introduced me to his brother-in-law, a man called Salih Shahin. This was after we had gained each other's trust. [I found out that] Salih was of the same mind, but there was some difference of opinion with Dr 'Abd-al-Majid who refused to join the organization after I had introduced him to 'Abbud and he had introduced me to 'Ata Tayil by way of al-Dilinjat since he comes from a village near al-Dilinjat. We got to know each other in the mosques and not because of our ideas. After that we used to engage in general discussions about the idea. This was after I met Nabil, since at that time I saw 'Ata only in al-Dilinjat, and my discussions with him about this idea were infrequent because I rarely went to the town.

My Meeting with Khalid

A few months ago, about 6 months ago, I gave 'Ata my address in Bulaq al-Dakrur. He used to come to my house in Cairo occasionally. Khalid and I later became acquainted through Nabil al-Maghribi, and I visited him for a while in the home of 'Abd-al-Hamid in al-Alf Maskin [The Thousand Homes]. He too found out where I lived, and he used to visit me every now and then. Then I became acquainted with Husayn who is related to Nabil al-Maghribi. I think he is the brother of his wife. It was obvious that he and Nabil al-Maghribi were of the same mind and that they were committed to their idea. Khalid visited me at home after I got out of the hospital, and while we were sitting together, he suggested that I move from my apartment and stay elsewhere because he was concerned about the fracture in my left foot in case I was arrested. Khalid told me in the same visit that he was going to participate in the military parade on 6 October, and that he would use that opportunity to kill the president. He was going to go past the reviewing stand where the president would be seated. I actually went along with him, and I expressed no objections. He had brought up the matter not to get my approval but because he was determined to carry it out. Then he got up and left.

The Furnished Room

I took a cab and actually followed him to the home of 'Abd-al-Hamid. My wife and Nasir were with me. Khalid's brother-in-law, Hamid, refused to let me stay in his house with 'Abd-al-Hamid until precautions for the operation were made and 'Ata arrived. We introduced him to the work; the ammunition was brought from Upper Egypt; and I was moved to a furnished room in al-Zaytun.

Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam Faraj adds in his confessions, "Khalid came to visit me at home after I got out of the hospital. He suggested that I leave the apartment lest I be subject to arrest while I still had the cast. During the same visit he told me that he was going to take part in the military parade on 6 October and that he was determined to use this opportunity to

kill the president since he was going to pass in front of the president. After he left I took a cab and caught up with him in al-Alf Maskin [The Thousand Homes]. I stayed in the apartment of his brother-in-law, Hamid, but he refused to let me stay there because he was not a member of the organization. So I went to 'Abd-al-Hamid's apartment, and Khalid discussed the question of assassinating the president with 'Abd-al-Hamid who made no objections. He did not want to be involved, but he went and got Husayn who lives nearby. Khalid proposed the plan to Husayn, but he refused to become involved.

Considering the Assassination

As far as 'Ata was concerned, he had visited me in Bulaq but I was not home when he came. 'Abd-al-Nasir brought him to 'Abd-al-Hamid's apartment, and he and Khalid discussed the matter of assassinating the president. He agreed to take part in the operation, and after that 'Abd-al-Hamid was added to the group.

Before the parade I moved from 'Abd-al-Hamid's apartment to a furnished room. We were afraid of arousing suspicion. I heard on the radio that the operation had succeeded. I had moved [to the furnished room] about 3 days before the parade.

They Brought the Ammunition

The ammunition was brought from Upper Egypt by 'Abd-al-Hamid or by Khalid. It consisted of bullets, up to four hand grenades and the nine mm ammunition. He let me know that they had charged Salih with bringing the ammunition, but they had not let him in on the assassination operation. The plan that Khalid had discussed to persuade those who were going to take part in the operation with him was that he would give three soldiers leave and take [his fellow conspirators] with him to the parade. He could thus use them in the assassination operation when they passed in front of the reviewing stand. These discussions took place in my presence, and I made no objections to them.

I had gone to 'Abd-al-Hamid about 2 days after leaving the hospital. We discussed the assassination after dinner. We discussed it first with 'Abd-al-Hamid alone and then we discussed it in Husayn's presence.

Ten Days before the Parade

There was also a discussion with Khalid alone. After 'Ata came to visit me, Khalid proposed the matter to me by myself. They all approved the plan, and this approval took place in my presence on 26 September. Thus, as of 26 September I knew of the plan to have the president killed by Khalid, 'Abd-al-Hamid, 'Ata and Husayn and I had approved of the plan.

I first got to know Khalid through Nabil al-Maghribi. Khalid had not been able to persuade Nabil al-Maghribi. This was about 5 or 6 months ago. He [i.e., Khalid] left him and visited me at home. His visits to me at home

were infrequent. He visited me after I got out of the hospital, and he suggested that I go with him to al-Alf Maskin [The Thousand Homes] because of the cast. He was afraid I would be arrested. I agreed to that, and I went with him. I found the apartment of his sister's husband, who was not a member of our organization. He [i.e., Khalid's brother-in-law] was apprehensive about me, so I went upstairs to 'Abd-al-Hamid's apartment.

'Abd-al-Hamid was supposed to take part in the October parade. He [i.e., Khalid] volunteered to kill al-Sadat during the parade and to carry out the plan of giving some people leave and slipping into the parade people who were not in the army. He would move with the parade, and upon coming to the reviewing stand he would strike. 'Abd-al-Hamid and Khalid had been able to get bullets from an administrative district or a village in Minya in Upper Egypt. They were also able to get four defensive hand grenades from the same place. During that period I was in 'Abd-al-Hamid's apartment. He asked them to move me from the apartment some time before the parade so that I would not be hurt.

They actually moved me to a furnished room where I spent a period of time before I left to go to al-Dilinjat. The operation was actually carried out successfully. Husayn, who is from the same area as 'Abd-al-Hamid, went to get him. 'Ata knew where 'Abd-al-Hamid was, and he came. They proposed the matter to him, and he agreed. 'Abd-al-Hamid was not going to participate, but the number [of participants] rose as Khalid had requested, and 'Abd-al-Hamid was added to the group. About 3 days before the operation I got out of the apartment to avoid suspicion. As far as the nine mm ammunition was concerned, Salih Shahin came and was told of their request for nine mm ammunition. Salih Shahin is from Saft al-Laban; he got the ammunition without knowing anything about the operation.

How Was the Ammunition Transported?

The role of 'Abd-al-Nasir 'Abd-al-'Alim was restricted to transporting the ammunition between them.

My role in the operation was confined to the fact that I was present when preparations for the operation were made.

Those who were present when the operation was discussed were Khalid, 'Ata, 'Abd-al-Hamid, Husayn and I. All of us, except 'Abd-al-Hamid, were members of the organization which received money from contributions. The wealthiest amongst us were 'Abbud al-Zumur and Nabil al-Maghribi. They were notified 1 or 2 days before the operation. The assassination was planned by Khalid, and it was considered a unique incident.

200 Shots

As far as the ammunition was concerned, it came on a car from Upper Egypt. 'Abd-al-Hamid went downstairs and got it. There were about 200 shots, 4 grenades and 9 mm [ammunition] from Cairo. I was sent in a car to a furnished room in al-Zaytun; the room had been rented by 'Abd-al-Hamid. I left my house with Nasir in a taxicab and went to 'Abd-al-Hamid's home on the same day he had brought him to me.

He had come to know Husayn 7 months ago through Nabil al-Maghribi.

If the mentioned person were to ask Mamduh and Ahmad to execute such an operation, they would not agree, and their relationship would end.

Samir was their colleague, but he did not know about the organization.

Mamduh met 'Abbud when he was visiting me in the hospital.

Denying What He Said

Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam Faraj 'Atiyyah, an electrical engineer at Cairo University denied the previous confession in the first session of the investigations that were carried out by the military prosecution. The investigation went as follows:

[Question] Were you a fugitive from justice?

[Answer] I did not consider myself a fugitive, but I was staying in al-Dilinjat until the cast could be removed from my leg. I was afraid I might get hurt because of the neglect in prison.

[Question] Why were you expecting [to go to] jail?

[Answer] They went to my father and told him that I was wanted.

[Question] What did you do that called for your arrest?

[Answer] I didn't do anything.

[Question] Didn't Khalid go to your house before the parade?

[Answer] No.

[Question] Don't you know Khalid?

[Answer] I only saw him in the incident of al-Sadat's assassination.

[Question] Didn't you and your wife go to the house of Khalid's sister in al-Alfi Maskin [The Thousand Homes]?

[Answer] No.

[Question] Is he a shameless liar?

[Answer] God only knows.

[Question] Khalid Ahmad Shawqi al-Islambuli, 'Ata Tayil and 'Abd-al-Hamid 'Abd-al-Salam said that you conspired with them to assassinate the president. They said that you helped them and that you and your wife spent the night in the home of Khalid's sister and that you then went to 'Abd-al-Hamid's apartment for the purposes of this conspiracy.

What do you say to that?

[Answer] It did not happen.

[Question] Are they shameless liars who are making up these lies against you?

[Answer] Only God knows that.

What Does the Canonical Law Say About This?

[Question] They admitted their crimes, and they implicated you in them. Did they commit a sin and accuse you, an innocent man?

[Answer] God only knows.

[Question] What is the verdict according to canonical law for anyone who does that?

[Answer] This would differ depending upon the crime itself.

[Question] Did you not furnish them with individuals [to help] carry out the assassination?

[Answer] This did not happen.

[Question] Did you not provide them with ammunition and hand grenades?

[Answer] No.

[Question] But they affirmed in the investigation in front of us that you did. Are they criminals?

[Answer] I did not say they were criminals. God knows their circumstances best.

[Question] Did they say the truth or were they lying?

[Answer] What they said about me did not happen at all.

[Question] Do you know someone called al-Zumur?

[Answer] I know of the al-Zumur family, but I don't know anyone from that family.

[Question] In the investigation Khalid said that you were well versed in Islamic law. Is this true?

[Answer] I cannot claim that.

[Question] About what are you knowledgeable?

[Answer] I am an engineer, and I've read ordinary religious books about Islam.

[Question] According to your beliefs how can the world become righteous?

[Answer] By appealing to people to change their ideas and to get rid of their faults. We are to enjoin people to do good and prevent them from doing evil amicably.

[Question] According to your religious beliefs, is bloodshed justifiable?

[Answer] Blood is sacred of course, and bloodshed is not justifiable.

I Am Not a Co-Conspirator

[Question] But the president was killed by individuals who are accusing you of conspiring with them and of inciting and assisting them. According to your Islamic belief, what do you think of what those people did?

[Answer] I was not a co-conspirator in that incident. They will be judged by God Almighty. If they erred, God will punish them for their deed.

[Question] We are asking you what you think, according to your Islamic belief, would be the judgment that canonical law would make on this act?

[Answer] I do not condone this act.

[Question] On what basis?

[Answer] On the basis of the fact that blood is sacrosanct.

[Question] Should one take your statement to mean that the president, may God have mercy on his soul, was unjustly killed?

[Answer] I don't know.

[Question] But you said that blood was sacrosanct. What do you, as a Muslim, believe regarding his murder. Was it just or unjust?

[Answer] As far as I know violation of the sanctity of blood is forbidden. As far as this incident is concerned, God will make a judgment on it.

[Question] Should one take your statement to mean that the murder of the president may have been just, or that it was clearly unjust?

[Answer] This incident may be unjust, but its perpetrators may have an explanation [that could mitigate their act].

[Question] What do you mean by that?

[Answer] I mean that they may have read somewhere or been persuaded [by someone] that bloodshed here was justifiable.

[Question] You are being charged with collusion in the death of the president and in the death of others, may God have mercy on their souls, by inciting, conspiring with and helping the perpetrators who are Khalid al-Islambuli, 'Abd-al-Hamid 'Abd-al-Salam 'Abd-al-'Al, 'Ata Hamidah Rahil and Husayn 'Abbas Muhammad. What do you say to that?

[Answer] This did not happen.

[Question] Were you coerced?

[Answer] The coercion that occurred was returning me to al-Qal'ah prison as was the case when I was first arrested.

[Question] Were the facts and details that you spoke of or wrote about [in your statement] yours or were they dictated to you?

[Answer] They were mine when I wrote them, but they were dictated to me before when I denied them.

[Question] Do you mean that this was what actually happened, willfully and voluntarily?

[Answer] This is what I said to intelligence [agents].

[Question] Didn't this actually happen?

[Answer] No.

The Confessions of Husayn 'Abbas

Husayn 'Abbas Muhammad is an enlisted sergeant in the popular defense [forces]. He said the following regarding his attack on the president.

[Question] What is your name and your rank?

[Answer] Enlisted sergeant, Husayn 'Abbas Muhammad.

[Question] What is your unit?

[Answer] Popular defense, the east Cairo educational district, the Misr al-Jadidah Institute of Religion.

[Question] Where do you live?

[Answer] Al-Zahra' al-Sharqiyah [Eastern al-Zahra'], Muhammad Abu al-Naja Street, number 67.

[Question] How did you come to know the individuals who took part with you in the attack?

[Answer] Brother 'Abd-al-Hamid introduced himself on Thursday after the

afternoon prayer at the al-Anwar al-Muhammadiyah mosque. I used to see him regularly in the mosque as a brother in Islam, but I had no relationship with him. He spoke to me and told me that he intended to provide fraternal assistance to a sister of mine whose husband had been arrested in the recent events. She is bringing up two small children and she needs help. He had his car, and we went to his home. There I met Brother Khalid, and Brother 'Abd-al-Hamid introduced me to Brother Khalid. After we talked for a while, Brother Khalid said that he wanted to give up his life for God and he asked me if I would go along with them. I said that I would, and after a while I left them and went home. We met one more time on Saturday in the home of Brother 'Abd-al-Hamid, and Brother Khalid was there at the time. After a short period of time a brother in Islam came from outside, and Brother Khalid introduced him as Brother 'Ata. Then the four of us left and went to a coffee shop in Misr al-Jadidah [Heliopolis], and we discussed all the details of execution. Then we went our separate ways.

We Entered the Parade Grounds

The four of us met one more time, and we rode in 'Abd-al-Hamid's car which Khalid drove. At the stadium and before we got to the area where the forces [participating in the] parade were assembling, we got out of the car and Brother Khalid said that we should inquire about him at the tents that were over there. [He told us] that we were to say we wanted Officer Khalid. I and Brother 'Ata were wearing government overalls. Brother 'Abd-al-Hamid was in civilian clothing. He had shaved his beard before we got into the car with Brother Khalid. Brother 'Abd-al-Hamid, Brother 'Ata and I got to the tents and we asked the soldiers about Officer Khalid, and one of the soldiers pointed out his tent to us. But Khalid had not arrived there yet, so we waited for him until he arrived. That day we slept outside the tent as though we were soldiers assigned to the unit from artillery brigade 188 to take part with the unit in the military parade. During that time I clerked for Officer Khalid in front of the soldiers and officers of the unit.

[Question] What happened after that?

[Answer] On Monday, Brother 'Abd-al-Hamid had an overall made up by the tailor of Officer Khalid's unit.

[Question] Do you know his name?

[Answer] His name is Subhi.

[Question] Then what?

[Answer] The weapons were collected, and disarmed except for three rifles whose serial numbers Officer Khalid gave us.

[Question] Who collected the cartridges from the rifles?

[Answer] The commandant of the corps. Brother 'Abd-al-Hamid, 'Ata and I serviced the tent where the weapons were collected. We took turns doing this for 24 hours until Tuesday morning.

[Question] When did you take the ammunition and the bombs and who gave them to you? How much ammunition did you have?

[Answer] Brother Khalid gave me the ammunition early Tuesday morning. We received numbered weapons, but I do not remember those numbers now. There was a whole case [of ammunition] for each one of us, and Brother Khalid had the bombs.

[Question] What were the details of executing the attack that you carried out against the president on the day of the incident from the time the car began to move?

[Answer] Our arrangement was that Brother Khalid was to ride in the covered compartment. Brother 'Ata was in the vehicle towing the gun, and Brother 'Abd-al-Hamid was immediately in front of him. I was riding in the same row with Brother 'Ata, but there were two soldiers between me and him. He was the last on the row on the side of the reviewing stand. There were eight individuals in the vehicle.

No One Took Part

[Question] Did they and the driver take part with you?

[Answer] No they did not. They did not know anything about the operation, and the driver too did not know anything.

[Question] How did the car stop?

[Answer] Brother Khalid pulled the hand brakes and gave Brother 'Ata a bomb. Brother Khalid got out of the covered compartment of the vehicle, and Brother 'Ata and 'Abd-al-Hamid jumped out of the vehicle. Brother Khalid and Brother 'Ata hurled the bombs onto the stand, and I gave them cover from the top of the vehicle until they approached the reviewing stand and faced al-Sadat. Then I got out of the car and ran towards Anwar al-Sadat, and we all fired at him. Then I gave my weapon to Brother Khalid because I had run out of ammunition. I slipped into the crowds, and after a while I went to the Rabi'ah al-'Adawiyah mosque. Then I went to the Central Accounting Agency, took a cab and went home. I stayed at home Tuesday and Wednesday. Then I went to my sister's house. She is married to Salih Amin Ramadan, a worker in the Iron and Steel Company. I learned afterwards that my home had been searched, and my wife and my son were alone in the house at the time.

[Question] What is your sister's name, Salih's wife?

[Answer] Her name is Mona.

[Question] How many sisters do you have?

[Answer] Mona, Nadiyah and 'Azizah, who is Nabil's wife. Nadiyah is the wife of an army aide whose name is Husayn Ahmad al-Gharbawi of the Third Army in Suez.

[Question] When were you arrested?

[Answer] On Thursday, 8 October 1981 at 2:30 a.m.

[Question] What is the name of your brother-in-law who is under arrest?

[Answer] Muhammad Nabil 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Maghribi. He is an employee of the Ministry of Culture in al-Sharabiyyah.

The Idea of the Assassination

AL-AKHBAR has learned that Khalid al-Islambuli had participated three times before in the military parade that was held to celebrate the October festivities. AL-AKHBAR has also learned that the idea of assassinating President al-Sadat had begun with Khalid al-Islambuli himself when he became certain that he was to take part in the military parade this year.

Khalid admitted proposing the assassination idea for the first time to 'Ali Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam Faraj, the man who did the planning and the thinking for the organization. Faraj agreed with him.

When Khalid al-Islambuli was asked during the investigation whether he would have gone ahead with the assassination idea had Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam refused to go along with him, he replied, "No. He is more knowledgeable than I am."

When Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam was asked about this incident and the investigator confronted him with the fact that he was being charged in the assassination of the late president, Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat, along with Khalid Shawqi, 'Abd-al-Hamid 'Abd-al-Salam 'Abd-al-'Al, 'Ata Tayil and Husayn 'Abbas, he said, "Yes, this did happen." Early in the investigation, he had denied involvement.

Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam's Group

The investigation that was conducted by the military prosecution established that Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam was the leader of the Bulaq al-Dakrur group; that his location was at 'Umar ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz mosque in Bulaq; that he used to move around the mosques in the area to select a few persons and to add them to the group that was attributed to him and named after him.

Salih Sariyah

The investigation also established that Salih Sariyah, the first defendant

in the Military Technical [College] case, who was executed in 1975, was the one behind the idea of the book, "Al-Faridah al-Gha'ibah [The Hidden Obligation]. This book amounted to being the constitution of the Islamic groups.

Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam admitted in the investigations that the book was derived originally from the formal legal opinions of Ibn Taymiyyah, an expert in Islamic jurisprudence. Ibn Taymiyyah had previously issued the opinion that Tatars may be killed and that their murder was justifiable because they had corrupted the earth and had been the reason why many Islamic reference books had been burned in Baghdad. It was said that so many books had been thrown into the Tigris that its waters had turned black.

"Al-Yasiq" Law

Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam said that Ibn Taymiyyah, in some of his research about the Tatars, stated that some of them had professed to be Muslims but that their actions had nothing to do with applying the provisions of the Koran and Islamic law. Ibn Taymiyyah said the Tatars were applying a law they had made themselves called "al-Yasiq." This was a legislative code and laws that were based on convention.

Therefore, Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam agreed immediately with Khalid al-Islambuli's suggestion to go ahead with the idea of assassinating President al-Sadat.

Arming the Assassination Team

The investigations indicated that Khalid had asked Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam to get him three persons which he would slip into the military parade. He also asked 'Abd-al-Salam to provide him with cases of bullets for the automatic rifles since the forces participating in the parade were not allowed to carry ammunition. He also asked him to get three firing cartridges. Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam actually carried out what was required of him, and an agreement was reached between Khalid and his colleagues who carried the automatic rifles. An agreement was reached that Khalid was to seize the machine gun that the driver of the vehicle towing the gun would have, since parade rules stipulated that officers carry no weapons whatsoever.

The Confessions of 'Abd-al-Nasir 'Abd-al-'Alim

The statement of 'Abd-al-Nasir 'Abd-al-'Alim Ahmad (Durrah) [follow]. He is a second year student at al-Jizah Secondary School, and he lives in Rabi' Hasan Street.

[Question] Do you know someone called Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam?

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] What do you know about him?

[Answer] He is a man well-versed in religion; he is my neighbor; and he is our commander.

[Question] What do you mean he is your commander?

[Answer] He teaches us religion, and he is our elder.

[Question] Who are you?

[Answer] The Bulaq al-Dakrur Youth Group, and we are learning about Islam.

[Question] Where and how did he meet with you to teach you religion?

[Answer] He used to deliver the Friday sermon in 'Amr ibn al-'Aziz mosque. He led prayers [in the mosque] and especially the afternoon prayer, and he often gave us lessons after the prayer.

[Question] What did he talk about in these lessons?

[Answer] He talked about worship, such as prayer and fasting, and he talked about unity among Muslims. He talked once about the peace agreement. He also talked about growing one's beard because this was the practice of the prophet, and he also talked about spending money for God's cause. He was talking to us once about the lives of the cave people, and he talked about how they had gone into the cave to worship God. He also talked about forcing our sisters to wear the veil; and he talked about humility and about shunning pride.

[Question] Did he talk to you about a holy war?

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] What did he say about that subject?

[Answer] He said that we must not allow injustice on earth.

[Question] Did he discuss the Tatars or Genghis Khan with you?

[Answer] No. We studied that in school.

[Question] Did he not suggest that you read certain books?

[Answer] No. He only gave us lessons at the mosque.

[Question] What are the ages of the young people who make up what you call the Bulaq al-Dakrur group?

[Answer] They are between 12 and 20 years old.

[Question] Did he single you out in particular for his attentions?

[Answer] I singled him out.

[Question] Why?

[Answer] Because he is an engineer, and walking with him made me feel good. He had helped me get my late father's retirement benefits, and I was his roommate when he was a patient at al-Mabarrah Hospital.

[Question] Did he support you?

[Answer] I owed him money. I owed him 25 pounds, and he said he did not want them.

[Question] Did you accompany him when he left his house to stay with a few friends?

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] When and how did this happen?

[Answer] This happened before and after 6 October. Before 6 October we went to Zafir, 'Abd-al-Hamid, Safwat and Sayyid al-Salamuni, and after 6 October we went to Hamadah and then we went back to Safwat. Safwat then took him to a physician's office, and then Muhammad sent me to his home town, al-Dilinjat to find out if the police had been there or not. When we came back, I did not find him in the physician's office, and I was told that he had left at dawn. I went to 'Abdallah's house in al-Haram, and I was arrested there.

[Question] What are the details of your accompanying him to Zafir's and 'Abd-al-Hamid's?

[Answer] We rode in a big car that was driven by its owner, a man named Sayyid or Salim. Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam's wife was with him, and I and that person carried him to the car. This was in the evening at the time of the evening prayer and about 8 days before 6 October. We went to Zafir's house, and when we got there, Zafir saw us from upstairs. His wife went up first, then Zafir and I carried him to the second floor. I spent 2 nights at Zafir's and after that he [i.e., Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam] went upstairs to the third floor and stayed with 'Abd-al-Hamid.

[Question] Who is this person you call Zafir?

[Answer] (He identified the picture of Khalid Ahmad Shawqi after it was shown to him during the investigation). He established that this was the person he called Zafir.

[Question] Did you overhear any conversation between those people about assassinating the president or about any action to establish an Islamic state?

[Answer] The only conversation I heard was when 'Ata met Muhammad, Muhammad talked to him about dying for the cause of God. What I remember is that we went to Zafir's house on the first day of school, the week before the parade and 'Ata came to 'Abd-al-Hamid's house on Tuesday and met with Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam. I was the one who brought him from Bulaq.

(Note: We showed him the picture of the person called Husayn 'Abbas).

[Answer] I saw this person at 'Abd-al-Hamid's house. He was wearing a soldier's uniform. This was after Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam left 'Abd-al-Hamid's house.

[Question] When did Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam leave 'Abd-al-Hamid's house?

[Answer] Around Thursday evening.

[Question] We showed you pictures of the people you mentioned, and they are Khalid, whom you call Zafir, and 'Abd-al-Hamid, 'Ata and Husayn. They are all in this picture. You have identified them and you mentioned that you met them when you accompanied Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam. Those people confessed in the investigation which we are conducting that they actually shot the president, may God have mercy on his soul. Did you not notice that they were trying to come to an agreement and to make arrangements with Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam?

[Answer] I did not notice anything at the time, but I found out [later] from the police after the murderers were arrested.

[Question] Is the killing of the president permissible or forbidden?

[Answer] It is forbidden. It is said in the Koran, "He who kills a believer by design shall burn in Hell for ever. He shall incur the wrath of Allah, who will lay His curse on him and prepare for him a woeful scourge" [al-Nisa': 93]. God Almighty spoke the truth.

[Question] You are being accused of conspiring with Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam and others whom you've mentioned and of helping them assassinate President Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat, may God have mercy on his soul. What do you say to that?

[Answer] No. I didn't do anything, and I didn't know anything. The only thing I did was accompany Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam because he is a friend and because he was sick and his leg was broken.

The Confessions of 'Abd-al-Hamid 'Abd-al-Salam

[Question] Who thought of the assassination and made the arrangements for it?

[Answer] The arrangements were made jointly by Khalid and Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam.

[Question] Explain.

[Answer] Khalid was the one who suggested the idea originally. He was the one who led the execution. Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam used to send Nasir and Salih on missions. He was also the one who brought both Husayn and 'Ata into the operation.

[Question] Do you mean that you, Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam and Khalid were in agreement about going through with this assassination?

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] Did you consider the legal arguments in that regard?

[Answer] The three of us were convinced from a religious standpoint in general.

[Question] Are you all in the same group?

[Answer] No. Our agreement was about a specific incident, that is, only for the purpose of killing.

One Ideology

[Question] How did you come to agree on a legal justification of bloodshed?

[Answer] As the case was presented in our midst we reached an agreement on the basis of the fact that we shared the same beliefs.

[Question] What denomination is that?

[Answer] There is no denomination.

[Question] How then did you come to agree on the assassination without making a legal inquiry?

[Answer] The legitimacy of killing the president became evident to each one of us on the basis of what each one of us had read.

[Question] [Did each of you reach that conclusion] alone?

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] But you have so far killed seven people other than the president. What do you say to that?

[Answer] He was the only one we intended to kill.

[Question] Did you intend the execution of this murder to be a spark or a starting point for subsequent events?

[Answer] As far as I and Khalid are concerned, our intention was to kill the president.

How Ammunition Was Purchased

[Question] How were the ammunition and the hand grenades that were used in the crime procured?

[Answer] The ammunition (7.62 X 39) arrived in Cairo around Wednesday, the week before the week of the parade. I went home and found them there in the room where Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam had stayed. Khalid may have been there. As far as I remember they were securely wrapped in newspapers, and there were about 100 bullets. Four of them were dum dum bullets.

[Question] Did you examine and count the ammunition?

[Answer] Yes, I did that before taking the ammunition to the parade grounds.

[Question] And before that?

[Answer] Khalid told me that that package contained 7.62 X 39 bullets and asked me to hide them. I put them on the roof, an uncompleted upper floor. I hid them under the lumber.

[Question] What about other ammunition, hand grenades, etc.?

[Answer] Regarding the 9 mm bullets, I took those from Khalid around Friday evening, [I believe].

[Question] Was Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam at Safwat's when the 8 mm bullets arrived?

[Answer] Yes, he was there.

[Question] What is his full name?

[Answer] His name is Safwat al-Ashwah.

[Question] What do you know about him?

[Answer] He is a pharmacist who frequents al-Haqq mosque.

[Question] Did you get any narcotics from this pharmacist?

[Answer] I got from him a small ampule that contained a sleep-inducing drug after explaining to him that I was tired and exhausted and could not sleep at all.

(Then he established in his statement that he did not take this sleep-inducing drug).

The Stages of Executing the Crime

[Question] Explain one step at a time the facts and stages you went through to execute the crime after you arrived in front of the reviewing stand.

[Answer] I took two bombs from Khalid when we were in the waiting area before we moved toward the reviewing stand. I gave one to 'Ata and kept the other. Then the car moved in the line of cars. The car was moving slowly as we passed in front of the reviewing stand because the rod that linked the vehicle and the trailer was damaged. When we arrived in front of the reviewing stand 'Ata threw the first hand grenade and then I threw the second. We threw the grenades while we were still in the car. I was facing the reviewing stand, that is, on the left side of the truck behind the driver. 'Ata was in front of me and Husayn was in the back of the truck to the right at the end of 'Ata's row. Then I jumped out of the truck after it stopped and I ran towards the reviewing stand. I was the first to go to the stand. Then I turned right and climbed the stairs. The stairs were on my right, but they were on the left of those seated on the stand. I dashed toward the president and I was shot in the stomach. Then I came down the stairs and went to the front of the reviewing stand. I raised my weapon and aimed the barrel toward the president. It was evident that he had in fact been shot. I fired the remaining rounds at him until I ran out of ammunition.

I Shot al-Sadat

[Question] Did you hit him, may God have mercy on his soul?

[Answer] I think I did.

[Question] From the stairs or from the front?

[Answer] From the front and from the stairs.

[Question] Did you hit anybody else?

[Answer] I don't know.

[Question] You are being accused of killing the president along with Khalid, 'Ata and Husayn, and you are being accused of killing others.

[Answer] We did, but the president was the only one I meant to kill.

[Question] Didn't you think it was possible that others around him would be hit?

[Answer] This was expected.

[Question] In your beliefs, is this legally permissible?

[Answer] Yes, it is.

The Confessions of 'Abbud al-Zumur

[Question] Explain your relationship with Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam Faraj.

[Answer] Our relationship began about 3 years ago. I used to pray at Uns ibn Malik mosque in al-Muhandisin [Engineers'] City. After I became a regular worshiper at the mosque and after hearing the sermons of al-Shaykh Ibrahim 'Izzat, I started reading books about Islam and Islamic jurisprudence in general. I began looking around me to find out about Islamic groups and to determine my attitude towards them. This period during which I read and pondered things around me lasted for 1 or a little over 1 year. After that, around August 1980, I became acquainted with Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam through Tariq al-Zumur. We met at Tariq's house near the administrative district of Imbabah, which is our town. Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam had come to pay Tariq a visit.

I was convinced that it was necessary and legitimate to fight against the ruler so as to establish the Islamic state. Through Muhammad, Nabil al-Maghribi joined us, and the three of us began thinking of a plan of action to establish an Islamic state. Because I am a military man and they are civilians, I proposed to them my thoughts on the subject. [I told them that] it was necessary to draw up a plan to seize control of vital targets such as the Ministry of Defense, the broadcasting building, the central security command and the Ministry of the Interior from which control can be established. [I also told them that] it would be necessary to kill a few important figures so that these murders would create confusion among the leaders, such as the minister of the interior, the central security commander, the minister of defense and the minister of foreign affairs. These murders would cause the leaders to lose control, come to a standstill and lose control over the affairs of the state. In addition, people who are influential in the communist parties, like Khalid Muhi al-Din, for example, would also be killed so that they would not be able to ride the wave, take advantage of the Islamic movement and use it to further their own interests. In addition, the communications and transportation system would be brought to a halt. As part of the plan I was thinking of letting the Muslim people go out in demonstrations to support the popular revolution after special statements proclaiming the Islamic revolution were announced. Broadcasting false bulletins would throw the armed forces out of kilter.

[Question] Should one take your statement to mean that the idea of establishing an Islamic state by opposing the ruler and those who supported him was Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam's?

[Answer] Yes. In our group.

[Question] What were the activities that Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam and Nabil al-Maghribi carried out while you were in the process of executing the general plan that you had agreed about and that you spoke of?

[Answer] Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam is the one who devised the ideological program in the book, "Al-Faridah al-Gha'ibah" [The Hidden Obligation]. He proselytized in various areas, and this brought together a few individuals who later became group leaders, such as Tariq al-Zumur [who led a group] in al-Haram, Salih Shahin in Safat, Muhammad Abu Hadid in Nahiyah, Nabil al-Maghribi in 'Ayn Shams and Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam. We considered him our elder because he was the one who advocated this movement and he was the father of the idea. This was during the first stage. Nabil al-Maghribi was in charge of providing individuals with training in printing, security, using weapons and gathering the information that was necessary to complete the plan. I was in charge of making the plans for the popular revolution.

[Question] Where and how did this training take place?

[Answer] Individuals received training in dismantling and assembling weapons in homes. We planned to provide training in marksmanship at a subsequent stage in mountainous areas.

[Question] Where do you get your finances?

[Answer] We don't have any outside sources. What happened was that the group looted a goldsmith's shop in Shubra al-Khaymah and took about half a kilogram of gold. That gold was sold for over 4,000 pounds.

He explained how this operation was executed.

[Question] What is the legitimate justification that you relied on in this theft which you call loot.

[Answer] This was the formal legal opinion of Dr 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman. It was relayed to us by one of our fellows from Upper Egypt.

[Question] Where did the hand grenades that were brought by the man called Usamah come from?

[Answer] They came from Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam. He sent them with Usamah.

[Question] How many shots did you have?

[Answer] I had about 500.

[Question] Where did they come from?

[Answer] They came from Bikhit, a weapons and ammunition merchant in Bilbays. They were purchased for 10 piasters a shot.

[Question] How much did the automatic rifles cost?

[Answer] Each rifle cost about 1,100 pounds. The machine guns cost about 300 pounds each.

[Question] When and how did the idea of assassinating al-Sadat, may God have mercy on his soul, come about?

[Answer] When my house, the house of Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam and the house of Tariq al-Zumur were raided and Nabil was arrested, the group felt that the matter had been exposed and that the investigating officers were putting the pieces together. Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam sent Tariq al-Zumur to me--Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam had contacted him--to tell me that they had decided to carry out the assassination of the president. They were going to use a group of individuals led by Khalid, a first lieutenant in the artillery. He was going to be able to slip in three civilians [into the parade], and he would kill the president during the military parade.

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MILITARY COURT INDICTS SUSPECTS IN AL-SADAT'S ASSASSINATION

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 13 Nov 81 p 5

/Article: "Text of the Military Indictment in the Al-Sadat Assassination Case"/

/Text/ Maj Gen Hamid Hammudah, director of the military judiciary, has issued an indictment in the case of the assassination of the late leader Anwar al-Sadat. Attending the press conference /at which he issued it/ were Maj Gen Fu'ad Khalil 'Abd-al-Salam, military public prosecutor, and Maj Gen Mukhtar Muhammad Husayn Sha'ban, deputy military public prosecutor. Herewith is the text of the indictment the director of the military judiciary announced yesterday:

After reading the minutes of the investigation and the minutes of the interrogation and attached materials, and after reading the Law on Military Sentences, the Penal Code and laws supplementary to that, the office of the military prosecutor has issued an indictment against the following:

1. Khalid Ahmad Shawqi al-Islambuli, 1st lieutenant in the armed forces, artillery, provisionally imprisoned.
2. 'Abd-al-Hamid 'Abd-al-Salam 'Abd-al-'Al 'Ali, owner of a bookstore, provisionally imprisoned.
3. 'Ata Tayil Hamidah Rahil, engineer, provisionally imprisoned.
4. Husayn 'Abbas Muhammad, volunteer sergeant in the armed forces, People's Defense, provisionally imprisoned.
5. Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam Faraj 'Atiyah, engineer, provisionally imprisoned.
6. Karam Muhammad Zuhdi Sulayman, student in the Faculty of Agriculture, Asyut University, provisionally imprisoned.
7. Fu'ad Mahmud Ahmad Ahmad Hanafi, known as Fu'ad al-Dawalibi, furniture merchant, provisionally imprisoned.
8. 'Asim 'Abd-al-Majid Muhammad Madi, engineering student in Asyut, detained.

9. Usamah Ibrahim Hafiz, student in the Faculty of Engineering, Asyut /University/, provisionally imprisoned.
10. Dr 'Umar Ahmad 'Ali 'Abd-al-Rahman, professor in the Faculty of Principles of Religion, provisionally imprisoned.
11. 'Abbud 'Abd-al-Latif Hasan al-Zumr, lieutenant colonel in the armed forces, provisionally imprisoned.
12. Salih Ahmad Salih Jahin, engineer, provisionally imprisoned.
13. 'Abd-al-Nasir 'Abd-al-Halim Ahmad 'Izzah, secondary student, provisionally imprisoned.
14. Tariq 'Abd-al-Mawjud Ibrahim al-Zumr, student in the Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University, provisionally imprisoned.
15. Muhammad Tariq Ibrahim Muhammad, dentist, provisionally arrested.
16. Usamah al-Sayyid Muhammad Qasim, student in the Faculty of Letters, University of al-Zaqaziq, provisionally imprisoned.
17. Salah al-Sayyid Bayyumi 'Ali, painter, provisionally imprisoned.
18. 'Ala'-al-Din 'Abd-al-Mun'im Muhammad Ibrahim, student in the Faculty of Education, University of al-Zaqaziq, provisionally imprisoned.
19. Anwar 'Abd-al-'Azim Muhammad Muhammad 'Ukashah, student in the Faculty of Education, University of al-Zaqaziq, provisionally imprisoned.
20. Muhammad Tariq Isma'il al-Misri, driver, provisionally imprisoned.
21. 'Ali Muhammad Farraj 'Ali, carpenter, al-Zaqaziq, provisionally imprisoned.
22. 'Abdallah Muhammad Muhammad Salim, student in the Faculty of Principles of Religion, provisionally imprisoned.
23. Safwat Ibrahim Hamid al-Ashwah, pharmacist, provisionally imprisoned.
24. Al-Sayyig 'Ali Muhammad Isma'il al-Salamuni, lecturer in the Faculty of Education, 'Ayn Shams, provisionally imprisoned.

They are accused of committing the following crimes in the military parade grounds in Madinat Nasr and other areas of the Arab Republic of Egypt on 6 October 1981 and previously:

First: Accused Persons One through Four

They deliberately, with premeditation and through observation, killed the late president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat, by deliberate

intent, with determination to kill him treacherously by assassinating him while he was present on the main podium at the military parade of 6 October 1981 honoring the heroic Egyptian armed forces on the anniversary of their victory in the glorious Ramadan war. Accused person one exploited his mission as a person in charge of personnel taking part in the parade who belonged to the military unit in which he served and through deception and fraud managed to substitute accused persons two, three and four for three soldiers in the original crew of 120-millimeter cannon trailer trucks. He also, by abusing his position, was able to bring in ammunition pertaining to the automatic weapons with which the crew was armed, as well as the short machine gun with which the driver was armed, onto the grounds of the military parade and to retain the firing pins for these weapons in spite of instructions that state that these pins are to be removed and that this ammunition is not to be present during the military parade.

He also was able to bring four high-powered hand grenades, each containing a large amount of shrapnel, onto the parade grounds, keeping two of them and handing one of the other two each over to accused persons two and three.

As the cannon trailer truck he was riding moved, while he was sitting alongside the driver in the cab and the other three criminals were sitting with the rest of the crew on the bed of the truck, he managed to compel the driver to stop directly in front of the main podium and hastened to dismount, throwing a hand grenade. Accused persons two and three also hurriedly threw two other hand grenades in the direction of the podium and these exploded in the vicinity of the podium. Accused persons three and four then fired a volley of shots from their automatic rifles, which caused severe shock to the people sitting on the podium and the president's guards. This resulted in their being compelled to lower their heads. In a few seconds, accused person one snatched the submachine gun belonging to the driver from the cab, the other three criminals leapt forward, and they all reached the main podium which was no more than 25 meters from the point where the truck had stopped. This enabled them to aim their weapons at close hand, frontally and from both sides. They ascended the steps on the right and left sides of the podium, discharging all their ammunition and concentrating on the people in the first row, in particular the late president, resulting in his being afflicted by the wound described in the forensic medical report which led to his death.

This crime was committed in the same place and at the same time as the deliberate murder, and the initiative to commit deliberate murder with premeditation and through observation, of other persons who were on and about the main podium. The criminals determined by deliberate intent to kill everyone they managed to kill whom the president had appointed to assist him. The following--Maj Gen A/H Hasan 'Allam, Khalfan Nasir Muhammad (from Oman), Eng Samir Hilmi Ibrahim, His Eminence Samu'il, Muhammad Yusuf Rashwan (a photographer), Sa'id 'Abd-al-Ra'uf Bakr, and Xiang Loi (Chinese by nationality)--were afflicted by the wounds described in the forensic medical reports which led to their deaths.

In addition, the following were afflicted by the wounds described in the medical reports but the effects of the crime failed for reasons beyond the criminals' control since they were given treatment and the God Almighty decreed that they were to remain alive:

Eng Sayyid Ahmad Mar'i, Fawzi 'Abd-al-Hafiz, Mahmud Husayn 'Abd-al-Nasir, Maj Gen A/H Muhammad Nabih al-Sayyid, Maj Gen 'Abd-al-Mun'im Muhammad Wasil (retired), Mahir Muhammad 'Ali, (Moncurvoiser) the Cuban ambassador, (Rubel Culur) the Belgian ambassador, Christopher Bryan (American by nationality), Hagen Burdick (American by nationality), Burke McCloskey (American by nationality), 'Abdallah Khamis Fadil (from Oman), Liu Xufan (Chinese by nationality), Ying Bilax (Chinese by nationality), Xun Fan (Chinese by nationality), Johnny Dodds (Australian by nationality), Brig Gen Wajdi Muhammad Mus'ad Muhammad, Brig Gen Mu'awiyah 'Uthman Muhammad 'Uthman, Brig Gen Ahmad Muhammad Sirhan (civilian police), Col Nazih Muhammad 'Ali, Maj 'Abd-al-Salam Mitwalli al-Sab', Maj 'Abbas Mustafa Khalil Barakat, Capt Muhammad 'Awadayn, 1st Lt Muhammad 'Abd-al-Latif 'Abd-al-'Aziz Zahran, Master Sergeant Muhammad 'Ali 'Ali 'Id, and Cpl Muhammad Ahmad Badawi Shahin.

Second: Accused Person Five: Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam Faraj 'Atiyah

He took part, through agreement, provocation and assistance, with accused persons one through four, in the crimes described in Section One above. He incited them to shed innocent blood through wrongful interpretations of the provisions of Islamic law as established by a pamphlet he prepared and printed titled "The Hidden Obligation." He fed them with his poison and caused their hearts to drink of his false materials. They obeyed him and their evil wills met agreement on the categorical decision to assassinate the late president and the statesmen on the main podium with him during the military parade. He also gave them aid in their treacherous crime by providing hand grenades and ammunition. These crimes occurred because he provoked them, agreed to them and assisted them, in the manner described in detail in the material set down in the investigation.

Third: Accused Persons Six through Nine

They took part, with accused persons one through four, in committing the crimes described in Section One above through agreement, by virtue of the fact that they were commanders of groups which have been found guilty of the deviant self-abnegation called for by accused person five, who called for the murder of the guardian of the country and the people assisting him. Their wills were united and their determination was joined in putting their bloody program into execution by assassinating the late president and the people around him during the military parade. They came from their towns in Upper Egypt, met with accused persons one and five, when the former presented them with his criminal plan, to which they gave agreement, then returned once again, shortly before the day of the military parade, affirming that they were still determined to execute this treacherous aggression. The crimes stated in Section One took place in accordance with this agreement.

Fourth: Accused Person Ten

He reached agreement through provocation with accused persons one through nine to commit the crimes stated in Section One above by agreeing to lead their deviant groups although knowing of their evil program, which was to declare the shedding of innocent blood and inviolable property to be legitimate prey.

He also provided them with religious rulings which encouraged them to perform what they had determined to do on the basis of which they were led to commit their vile crime, according to the detailed discovery made by the investigation.

Fifth: Accused Persons 11 through 24

They took part through agreement and assistance with accused persons one through five in committing the crimes described in Section One above, after they had embraced the deviant thinking promoted by accused person five, who incited the murder of the head of state and the people assisting him. When they were presented with the plan to attack the main podium during the military parade and to assassinate the president and the people with him, they all gave their agreement and took the initiative of mobilizing all their activities, time and resources, placing themselves under the command of accused person five to carry out that criminal scheme whose command he had assumed. They prepared the grenades and ammunition used by the perpetrators of the crime, conveyed instructions, carried out contacts and aided accused person five by providing transportation with their vehicles and concealment in their homes, where he hid, being unable to move of his own accord as his leg had been broken. The crime occurred in accordance with this agreement and assistance in the specific manner revealed in detail by the investigation.

Sixth: All the Accused Except for Accused Person Ten

They were in possession of and obtained arms and ammunition without legal permission and also were in possession of, obtained and used explosives with the objective of committing political assassination in the specific manner stated in the investigations.

On that basis, the office of the military prosecutor demands that they be punished in accordance with Articles 39, 40, 41, 43, 45, 46, 102A, 102B, 230, 231, 232, 234/2, and 235 of the Penal Code and Articles One, Six, 26/2, Four and 30 of Law 364 for 1954, amendments to it, and Table Three appended to it.

/Signed/ Maj Gen Mukhtar Muhammad Husayn Sha'ban, deputy military public prosecutor.

10 November 1981.

/Signed/ Maj Gen Fu'ad Khailil 'Abd-al-Salam, military public prosecutor.

10 November 1981.

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CSO: 4504/95

COURT PROCEEDINGS AGAINST DEFENDANTS IN AL-SADAT'S ASSASSINATION REPORTED

Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 1 Dec 81 pp 1, 3, 4

[Article by Faruq al-Shadhli: "The Defendants Who Are Accused of Killing al-Sadat Declare in Court That They Did Not Commit a Crime!"]

[Text] Court sessions in the trial of al-Sadat's killers have been postponed till next Saturday. The defense praised President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's decision to release politicians who had been in custody. A decision was also made that future court sessions would be closed so that armed forces secrets can be protected.

First defendant, Khalid Ahmad Shawqi al-Islambuli declared at the beginning of the session that he had killed al-Sadat. Then he declared that he and all the defendants were not guilty. The defendants also denied all the charges that were made against them. A decision was made to add the defendants' detention reports, which had not been received by the court, [to the documents of the case].

The defendants Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam Faraj, Fu'ad al-Dawalibi, Salah al-Sayyid Bayyumi, Anwar 'Abd-al-'Azim 'Ukashah and Safwat Ibrahim al-Ashwah were examined by a forensic physician to determine [the extent] of what they claimed were injuries. The defense requested that the testimony of Dr 'Abd-al-Rahman Baysar, Muhammad Mutwalli al-Sha'rawi, Ahmad al-Mallawi, Salah Abu Isma'il, Muhammad Hasanayn Makhluf and al-Shaykh Jad al-Haqq, the mufti of the republic be heard so that these ideas can be discussed and their legality confirmed or denied. The defense also requested that Dr Muhammad Hilmi Murad be summoned to testify about an article in which he had stated that illegal conditions existed before the assassination of the late president was committed.

All the defendants were in court after defendant number eight, 'Asim 'Abd-al-Majid arrived. He was at al-Shurtah [Police] Hospital when the court held its first session. 'Abd-al-Majid came to court with the physician who has been attending him, the physician for the military prison hospital. All the witnesses were also in court and so were more than 30 persons who are related to the defendants. The defendants sat in cages, six to a cage, except for the fourth cage in which there were only five defendants. One of the four killers sat in each cage.

The session was called to order at 9:40 with Maj Gen Dr Samir Fadil presiding and Maj Gen Mustafa Mahir Fadil and Maj Gen 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Sha'ir participating. Counsel for the prosecution was Maj Gen Fu'ad Khalil 'Abd-al-Salam, the military prosecutor, and his deputy Maj Gen Mukhtar Muhammad Husayn Sha'ban, Maj Gen Dr Yahya al-Shimi, assistant military prosecutor and Col Mahmud 'Abd-al-Ghaffar, chief of military prosecution. First Sergeant Ibrahim Zayn al-'Abidin 'Abd-al-Hadi and First Sergeant Hamdi 'Ali Muhammad were court secretaries.

The session began with a roll call of the defendants.

Chief Judge: The first defendant, Khalid Ahmad Shawqi al-Islambuli.

Defense: Present with Raja'i 'Atiyyah, attorney in fact; 'Abd-al-Halim Ramadan, attorney in fact; and Ahmad Khalid, appointed attorney.

Chief Judge: Are there any conflicts between the defendant's positions and the positions of any of the defendants who are represented by appointed attorneys?

Defense: The court has the right to settle any conflicts in the course of the court proceedings.

First Defendant: Mr Raja'i 'Atiyyah is my attorney.

Defense: The testimony of all four defendants regarding the incident has been consistent. None of them made any statement that was denied by another. They all concur in their statements. None of them blamed the other or made any statement that may reduce the charges against them. The statements of the first four defendants regarding material facts are the same. None of them said anything in his testimony that would incriminate another or reduce the charge against him. I find no conflicts in the positions of the first four defendants.

Request for Postponement

Defense: We ask Your Honor, due to the significance of the case, that court proceedings be postponed for a suitable time, especially since some of our colleagues have not yet examined the case, and there are also new documents in the case.

Chief Judge: The conflict may lie in the defendants' positions and not only if one of them testifies against the other. The court thinks there is conflict, and the defense must specify whether he will defend the first defendant or the second.

Defense: The first defendant, Raja'i 'Atiyyah.

Chief Judge: Second defendant, 'Abd-al-Hamid 'Abd-al-Salam 'Ali.

Defense: Present with 'Izzat 'Abd-al-Salam 'Abd-al-'Alim, attorney in fact and Muhammad Muhi Salih, attorney in fact.

Chief Judge: Third defendant, 'Ata Tayil Hamidah.

Defense: Present with Hafiz al-Khattam, appointed attorney.

Chief Judge: Fourth defendant, Husayn 'Abbas.

Defense: Present with 'Abbas al-Misri, appointed attorney.

Chief Judge: Fifth defendant, Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam Faraj.

Defense: Present with 'Abd-al-Halim Mandur, attorney in fact. He is also the attorney for defendant number 22.

Chief Judge: Other than the discussion we've had here there is a ruling by an appellate court that conflict exists when any person testifies against another.

Defense: Yes, if the defendant denies the evidence against him, does not admit to the incident and confirm the testimony given by the witness. In this case he would be considered a competent witness.

Chief Judge: Defendant number six, Karam Muhammad Zuhdi.

Defense: Present with Mr al-Tamawi.

Chief Judge: Defendant number seven, Fu'ad Mahmud Ahmad (Fu'ad al-Dawalibi).

Defense: Present with Mr al-Zawahiri.

Chief Judge: Defendant number eight, 'Asim 'Abd-al-Majid.

Defense: Present with Muhammad 'Imad al-Subki and Ra'uf Ahmad Qutb, attorneys in fact.

Chief Judge: Defendant number nine, Usamah Ibrahim Hafiz.

Defense: Present with al-Zawahiri and al-Tamawi.

Chief Judge: Defendant number 10, Dr 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman.

Defense: Present with Muhammad Yusri Muhamram, attorney in fact and Ahmad al-Harjawi, appointed attorney. There are no conflicts whatsoever between his position and that of any of the defendants.

Chief Judge: 'Abbud 'Abd-al-Latif Hasan al-Zumur.

Defense: Present with Attorney 'Abduh Murad. I am his attorney and I'm also the attorney for Tariq al-Zumur. I have no objection to leaving my place to another attorney.

Chief Judge: Whom will you defend?

Defense: I and Yahya Murad will defend 'Abbud, provided that Mamduh 'Abduh Murad defend Tariq al-Zumur. There are three other attorneys if you wish. I concur with the court that each defendant should have his own attorney in accordance with the immunity that is provided for each in the constitution.

Chief Judge: The defendant, Salim Ahmad Salih Jahin.

Defense: Present.

Chief Judge: The defendant, ('Abd-al-Nasir 'Abd-al-'Alim Durrah). *

Defense: Present with 'Abd-al-Halim Ramadan, attorney in fact.

Chief Judge: The defendant, Tariq 'Abd-al-Mawjud al-Zumur.

Defense: Present with Mamduh 'Abduh Murad, attorney in fact.

Chief Judge: The defendant, Muhammad Tariq Ibrahim.

Defense: Present with Muhammad Salih and Muhammad 'Atiyyah Khamis and appointed attorney for defendants number 17 and 24.

Chief Judge: The defendant, Usamah al-Sayyid Muhammad Qasim.

Defense: Present with Mr Isma'il al-Najjar who was appointed but was not notified by either the bar association or the court.

Chief Judge: Mr Ahmad Mahmud Mujahid is appointed to defend him.

Chief Judge: The defendant, Salah al-Sayyid Bayyumi 'Ali.

Defense: Present with 'Atiyyah Sulayman, attorney in fact.

Chief Judge: The defendant 'Ala' al-Din 'Abd-al-Mun'im Muhammad Ibrahim.

Defense: Present with Hammudah Zaywar and 'Abd-al-Hamid Nayil, appointed by the bar association.

Chief Judge: You are appointed for [defendant] number 19.

Chief Judge: The defendant Anwar 'Abd-al-'Azim Muhammad 'Ukashah.

Defense: Present with 'Abd-al-Halim Ramadan, attorney in fact.

* Names in parenthesis here and below represent the translator's best efforts to read faint or hard to read print in the newspaper.

Chief Judge: The defendant Muhammad Tariq Isma'il al-Misri.

Defense: Present with Ahmad Fu'ad and Fathi al-Jammal.

Chief Judge: 'Ali Muhammad Farraj 'Ali.

Defense: Present with Yusri Muhamram, attorney in fact.

Chief Judge: 'Abdallah Muhammad Muhammad Salim.

Defense: Present with 'Abd-al-Halim Mandur, attorney in fact. There is no conflict between his position and that of my other client. Shawqi (Hatim) is the appointed attorney.

Chief Judge: The defendant Safwat Ibrahim Ahmad al-Ashwah.

Defense: Present with ('Imad) al-Subki. There is no conflict.

Chief Judge: Al-Sayyid 'Ali (Muhammad) Isma'il al-Salamuni.

Defense: Present with Muhammad 'Atiyyah Khamis and Muhammad Yusri Muhamram, attorneys in fact.

The Presence of Witnesses

All the witnesses were called, and they were all present.

--Maj Gen Muhammad Nabih al-Sayyid, president of the Armed Forces Training Commission.

--Retired Maj Gen 'Abd-al-Mun'im (Wasif).

--Brig Gen Ahmad Mutwalli (al-Zahra').

--Lt Col Mamduh Abu Jabal.

--First Lt 'Abd-al-[illegible] Lutfi al-Lutf.

--Zakariyya Muhammad Rashad.

--Sayyid Muhammad Khalifah.

--'Isam Muhammad 'Abd-al-Hamid.

--Fawzi 'Atanah Ghazali.

--Subhi 'Abd-al-Maqsud Mahmud.

--Kamal al-Tayyib Mishriqi.

Military Prosecution Correspondence

Chief Judge: The court has received the correspondence of the military prosecution.

1. A copy of the prosecution's letter to the director of al-Shurtah [Police] Hospital in al-'Ajuzah requesting the transfer of defendant number eight, 'Asim 'Abd-al-Majid to the military prison hospital in compliance with the order issued by the court in the previous session.
2. The military prosecutor's letter in reports number 22 and 23, file numbers 39/3 and 99/3.
3. The autopsy report on the cause of death of the late president and 7 others as well as 38 persons who were injured in the incident.
4. A bar association memorandum appointing 10 attorneys to defend the defendants who had not hired anyone to represent them.
5. A copy of an administrative memorandum from the military prosecutor to have the defendants, Karam Muhammad Zuhdi, Salih Ahmad Jahin, 'Abdallah Mahmud Salim and al-Sayyid 'Ali Muhammad Isma'il examined by a forensic physician in compliance with the court order.
7. A copy of the forensic examination of Tariq al-Zumur in accordance with the court order made in the previous session.
8. Three reports from the Armed Forces Hospital in al-Ma'adi about the condition and injuries of the first, second and third defendants.

A decision was made to enter these documents [as evidence] in the case.

Defense: We have some formal objections.

Chief Judge: All right, but we have not begun yet.

The Four Defendants Accused of Killing al-Sadat

Chief Judge: Defendants number one, two, three and four: you are being charged with the deliberate and premeditated murder of the late president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat. You are accused of plotting and resolving to kill and assassinate him while he was on the reviewing stand in the military parade of 6 October; of killing seven other persons; and of intending to kill 28 others who were watching the military parade. You are also being charged with possession of weapons and ammunition in accordance with the indictment against you.

First Defendant: I killed al-Sadat, and I admit it.

Defense: The defendant's attorney requests clarification from the defendant whether his statement is only an admission of the incident or a statement signifying that the act he committed was a matter of conviction?

First Defendant: Not guilty.

Chief Judge: Second defendant, 'Abd-al-Hamid 'Abd-al-Salam, are you guilty or not guilty?

Defendant: Not guilty.

Chief Judge: Third defendant, 'Ata Tayil, are you guilty or not guilty?

Defendant: Not guilty.

Chief Judge: Fourth defendant, Husayn 'Abbas, [regarding] the incidents you mentioned previously are you guilty or not guilty?

Defendant: Not guilty.

Chief Judge: Fifth defendant, Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam Faraj. Where is he? Stand up.

Defendant: Yes, sir.

Chief Judge: You are being charged with complicity with the first four defendants in the crimes that you previously stated. You are being charged with inciting the murder of innocent people by erroneous interpretations of legal Islamic rulings you established in a book. You are being charged with helping the four defendants carry out their treacherous crime by procuring weapons and ammunition, and this resulted in the occurrence of these felonies.

Defendant: Not guilty.

Chief Judge: You are being charged with possession of weapons and ammunition that were used for political assassination purposes.

Defendant: Not guilty.

Criminal Conspiracy

Chief Judge: Defendants six through nine, Karam Zuhdi, Fu'ad al-Dawalibi, 'Asim 'Abdal-Majid and Usamah Ibrahim [are being charged with] criminal conspiracy to commit the crimes that were committed by the former defendants when they were leaders of groups which espouse the deviant ideas that are advocated by defendant number five. All of you came from your home towns in Upper Egypt and met with defendants number one and number five. It was then that defendant number one proposed his criminal plan to you. Then you returned one more time before the military parade to make sure that things were going according to plan.

Defendant Karam Zuhdi: This did not happen.

Defendant Fu'ad al-Dawalibi: It did not happen.

Defendant 'Asim 'Abd-al-Majid: Not guilty.

Chief Judge: Louder.

Defendant: Not guilty.

Defendant Usamah Ibrahim Hafiz: Not guilty.

Chief Judge: You are also being charged with possession of weapons for political assassination purposes.

The Defendants: This did not happen.

Chief Judge: The defendant, Dr 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman, you are being charged with inciting the defendants one through nine to commit the aforementioned felonies. You are accused of accepting leadership of their group even though you knew that the course they were following allowed the murder of innocent people.

Defendant: Not guilty.

Chief Judge: Defendants 11 through 24 are implicated in joining the criminal conspiracy and helping defendants one through five commit the crimes indicated first. They did so after adopting the deviant ideas that are advocated by defendant number five. These ideas urged that the president and those who support him be killed during the military parade.

All the defendants said they were not guilty.

Chief Judge: Now then, the prosecution.

The Military Prosecutor: We ask that the witness's testimony be heard and that court proceedings be allowed to continue in the interests of the public.

Postponing or Pleading the Case

Defense: The public interest may require that a longer period be allowed so that the case may be examined, the defendants reassured, the defense strengthened and the opportunity to clarify matters that have been hidden in the past made available. We hope the court will not comply with expedition requests that come from here and there in the name of public interest.

Chief Judge: Is this a request for postponement or for pleading the case? What do you want to say? You made a request for postponement and you stated the reasons therefor.

Defense: The case is in its obvious place. The facts, as stated by the defendants, must be verified. Ultimately, we want this to become evident on the scene before the court issues its verdict. There are many aspects in the case that have to be investigated and explained. We are also requesting

that all the investigations that were carried out by state security prosecution and declared by the state security prosecution as relevant to the remaining defendants be included as evidence. We do not accept the fragmentation of the case.

Chief Judge: Is this an objection or a request?

Defense: We are asking that the military prosecution make its investigations available.

Chief Judge: It is up to the defense to secure from the state security prosecution evidence to establish that those investigations contain matters that pertain to these facts which are being considered by the court.

Defense: We ask permission to make copies of the papers that were received recently and added to the case. We ask permission to distribute those copies.

Chief Judge: The papers are in the file of the case, and I have already stated that it is the role of attorneys to examine those papers.

Defense: We are prepared to examine them and especially the book, "Al-Faridah al-Gha'ibah" [The Hidden Obligation]. We are also prepared to make copies of the book it and to distribute those copies to the remaining colleagues.

Release of Politicians

Defense: We are grateful to the president for releasing the politicians and also for his concern in denying any suspicion that he may be interfering in the affairs of the court when one of the newspapers reported that he had received the minister of defense who had the indictment with him. This affirms the president's honesty and his concern for the integrity of the courts and for the fact that there be no suspicion that anyone other than the truth and the law was interfering in this case. We are also summoning to your courtroom al-Shaykh Baysar, Muhammad Mutwalli al-Sha'rawi, Ahmad al-Mahallawi, Salah Abu Isma'il, Muhammad Hasanayn Makhluf and al-Shaykh Jad al-Haqq. They are all Muslim scholars. We do not claim to be knowledgeable, for all knowledge lies with God. We are inviting them to your courtroom to discuss the ideas mentioned in this case and to tell us whether they are misguided or right.

Chief Judge: Is this [part of] your argument in the case?

Defense: We are also asking that Dr Muhammad Hilmi Murad; 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Shurbaji, president [of the bar association]; Attorney 'Abd-al-'Aziz Muhammad; 'Abdallah Rashwan and 'Umar al-Talmasani be allowed to testify.

Defense: We ask that the sessions be restricted to certain days since we are attorneys and we have other cases to attend to. We are also asking for a reduction in security measures.

Chief Judge: The court is not responsible for security measures. The court is responsible for the facts of the case and everything in the courtroom.

Chief Prosecutor: Now that the defense has made its requests, I ask that the testimony of the witnesses be heard.

Chief Judge: The court will recess.

Court Decisions

The court session was resumed after a 40-minute recess.

Chief Judge: The court has decided [the following]:

1. The reply of His Eminence the Mufti to the book "Al-Faridah al-Gha'ibah" [The Hidden Obligation] is to be filed with the presentment of the case petition as soon as it arrives, and the military prosecution is to see to it that this is carried out.
2. The defendants' reports which have not actually arrived are to be added.
3. The defendants Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam Faraj, Fu'ad al-Dawalibi, Salah al-Sayyid Bayyumi, Anwar 'Abd-al-'Azim 'Ukashah and Safwat Ibrahim al-Ashwah are to be examined by a forensic physician.
4. In accordance with the request by the defense to examine the case and to prepare for it, consideration of the case is postponed till December 5. The court will convene in closed session to protect the secrets of the armed forces.

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CSO: 4504/126

GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPER INITIATES DISCUSSION ON MILITARY LAW AMENDMENTS

Cairo MAYU in Arabic 16 Nov 81 p 1

/Article: "A Request for Amendments to the Military Service Law"/

/Text/ MAYU has decided to open the dossier on the current Military Service Law, lay the facts on this law before public opinion in Egypt, and request that military service in our country be amended so that it can start before the university education stage and not after it, as is the case now.

MAYU has also decided to demand that the period of military service for people completing their studies be 2 years, so that the armed forces can benefit from them in creating a first class army, creating a new generation of high-level technicians who will benefit Egypt, and developing scientific and practical staffs which can offer much to Egypt if they go to university after performing military service, rather than being a burden to it, as is the case now with most university graduates.

For it to be feasible to carry out this recommendation, on which MAYU is calling for all Egyptians to contribute their views, we consider that it is necessary to suspend the approval of new applications to universities in Egypt for a period of 2 years, which is the period that general secondary graduates will spend in the armed forces. In this suspension period the universities will be able to repair their laboratories, complete their buildings and rearrange their affairs in order to receive a new wave of young people who will have completed the period of conscription in the armed forces and will have learned a great deal in them, subsequently qualifying them to serve Egypt and the Arab world or to complete their studies in universities and higher institutes.

After a long study of the current conscription law, MAYU has confirmed that it operates in the manner of an inverse pyramid, that it inflicts great losses on our country's interests, that Egypt is the only country in the world that drafts people with high credentials, and that in Israel, America, Britain and Switzerland people with intermediate credentials are drafted first, and later, if they wish to do so, they enroll in universities and higher studies.

These are the facts that MAYU has ascertained after opening the file on the current Military Service Law. We are laying it before public opinion and everyone interested in the subject so that they may express opinions on MAYU's requests for amendments in the law.

First, the system of the inverse pyramid by which the current law operates causes us to rely on our armed forces on people with higher credentials who have been drafted into the armed forces for jobs that are not in keeping with their intellectual abilities. In armored units, for example, we are compelled to make tank commanders, drivers and gunners out of people with intermediary (preparatory) credentials, so that they can be trained in the necessary period (about 8 months), after which we use them for 3 years. People from universities generally work in the position of cannon loaders in tanks because training for that takes a month and they can be used for the rest of a year. This is a job that does not need much thought and just takes physical strength. University people cannot command tanks or work as tank gunners because they leave the army just a short period after they have finished training.

Second, the same thing is the case in the air defense forces: people possessing intermediate credentials work on radar systems while people with higher credentials perform such trivial jobs as running electrical machinery. Any ignorant soldier can do that job.

Third, the universities are overcrowded with students; if we give them 2 years' opportunity to catch their breath, that will be in the interests of the university and in the interests of Egypt and future graduates of the universities as well.

Fourth, there are about 250,000 general secondary students; the armed forces can use about 160,000 of them, train them, and instruct them in electronic equipment so that they can leave the service as technicians who can earn a great deal in the market without needing to go to university, or complete their education in the university, with scientific and practical preparation from the period they have spent in the armed forces.

Fifth, this proposal will be of benefit to our forces in lengthening equipment life, since people who know how to think properly will be working with it and use will be made of their expertise for longer periods, instead of just 12 months as in the present law.

Sixth, the armed forces will teach their conscripts discipline, with the result that they will be disciplined when they go to university or will have an advanced profession when they enter the market from which they can earn a great deal.

Seventh, we can form work battalions out of people who do not join the armed forces for specific reasons as well as girls, so that there will be no discrimination among boys and girls. For example we can form anti-illiteracy battalions or agricultural labor battalions, and also teach them military discipline.

Eighth, young people can be encouraged to accept this recommendation by studying the volunteer systems in foreign countries. In America for example students who want to go into engineering are accepted and given training in the Army Corps of Engineers. After they complete the voluntary service period (5 years, for example), they can leave, having been given practical training in four or five scientific subjects, with a large sum of money that the army has saved up for them, which they can use in the university.

MAYU presents all the conclusions it has reached to fathers, children, officials in the Ministry of Defense, and experts in the university in order that they may express their opinions on the recommendation that military service should come before entry into the university and be for a period of 2 years, during which time university studies will be in abeyance.

11887
CSO: 4504/95

HIGH DAM CAPACITY TO WITHSTAND EARTHQUAKES REAFFIRMED

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 17 Nov 81 p 3

/Article by Muwaffaq Abu-al-Nil: "The 36 Hours of Fear Aswan Went through in Coping with Six Earthquakes, the Latest at 0250 Hours Yesterday Morning: No Fears over the High Dam"/

/Text/ The people in Aswan went through 36 hours of fear and tension.

The city, with its buildings and installations, was jolted over successive periods of time. The people of Aswan spent two nervous nights, the officials, along with them, holding their hands to their hearts in the frightening periods the people responsible for the city faced, particularly since no one knew how such incidents could be dealt with, whether the people should proceed to evacuate or head for civil defense shelters.

Experts have stressed that there are no fears over the High Dam.

The occurrences began with a light earth tremor lasting about 30 seconds at 0900 hours in the morning of Friday 13 November. The people of Aswan were astonished since they did not know the nature or causes of this tremor.

There were people who imagined it was an immense truck driving along a street that had caused the shock to the buildings. There were people who thought their homes were about to collapse and they rushed into the street to see what was going on. All Friday went by without further incident; the talk of the evening was the earthquake that had occurred, and the matter ended there.

At 0120 on Saturday morning the inhabitants of the city of Aswan woke up to violent jolts that made beds shake. People went out into the street in terror in their nightclothes. They included people who were carrying their children on their shoulders, people carrying purses full of money and jewelry, and women whom fear and panic had caused to rush into the street in their nightgowns. The picture in the hotels was different. The people staying in first class hotels went out in their underwear trying to learn what was going on, and in the second class hotels the young tourists woke up, made light of the subject of the earthquake and waited up till the light of dawn laughing among themselves in the streets.

At 1100 hours in the morning of the same day, Saturday 14 November, the earth tremor repeated itself, but in more forceful and violent fashion. Employees left their places of work and went out into the streets. There was panic among the pupils in school and a student threw himself out of a window in a classroom on the second floor of the 'Abbas al-'Aqqad secondary school to save himself from the earthquake. Fortunately for him he landed on a sandpile in the schoolyard and was not injured. Pupils rushed to the school exits, leaving their textbooks and school supplies on the schooldesks. Naturally their teachers ran ahead of them. An employee of the youth and sports department threw himself from an office window and fell on the road, suffering bruises and cuts. Reports rained down on the first aid center on cases of people who had fainted, suffered nervous seizures and been removed, life came to a stop in the streets of Aswan, and the shops were emptied of their sales personnel.

Where Was the Governor?

At that time the governor was in the town of Kom Ombo, leading a discipline campaign. On his way he visited Daraw Central Hospital, failed to find the director of the hospital present, and turned him over for investigation. In his tour of the shops in Kom Ombo, the tremor, which lasted 60 seconds, struck with extreme violence and he went back to the governorate building in Aswan to find that reports had come in in floods giving word of the outbreak of big fissures and collapses in houses built of green adobe (straw) brick. There were nine such houses in a number of various areas of the city. Then followed word that six schools in Idfu District, six schools in Aswan District and one school in the Nasr Center for Nubian Refugees had sustained big cracks and that cracks and fissures had appeared in the buildings.

The governor decided to establish an operations and communications room in the earthquake observation center in Abu Simbel and Hilwan and to request a report on these small earthquakes and the likelihood of their recurring. He held a meeting with security, health, supply, and social affairs directors to set out a plan of action to provide security for the citizens.

During the meeting at 1750 hours in the afternoon on Saturday, a similar quake occurred which lasted about 50 seconds. The governor informed Dr Fu'ad Muhyi-al-Din, the deputy prime minister, of the occurrences and assured him that there had been no loss of life. The governor requested the deputy prime minister to provide him with a report on the records of the earthquake.

The climate was appropriate for rumors, and fantastic figures concerning the dead and wounded in hospitals and the thousands of homes that had collapsed circulated, instilling terror in people's spirits.

In the face of the proliferating rumors, the governor, at 2300 hours at night, broadcast a statement in his own voice over local radio reassuring and calming the people. He said that there was absolutely no danger and that there had been no injuries or building collapses as a result of these tremors. The secretariat of the National Party in Aswan held an urgent meeting under the chairmanship of Dr 'Abdallah al-Mughrabi, secretary of the National Party in the governorate, attended by the governor and Dr Hasan 'Ali Husayn, chairman of the People's Assembly

in the governorate. It was decided to form specific groups of party members and party youths who would circulate among the masses and point out false rumors. A census committee of party leaders was also formed to record the losses, and it confirmed that the cracks and building collapses had occurred in old houses built of green brick.

Aswan woke up Sunday morning at dawn, at 0330 hours specifically, to a less violent tremor. However, the terror that had been hovering over people's hearts and spirits made the quake seem as if it was of the most violent sort. It was followed by another one at 0700 hours the same morning, Sunday, 15 November. At 1000 hours Sunday morning a private airplane arrived bringing three ministers who had been sent by the Council of Ministers to draw up a report on the facts of the situation in Aswan, especially since some foreign news agencies had said that a crack had occurred in the body of the High Dam and that there had been a collapse in the electricity plant.

A tripartite ministerial factfinding committee tour took place in the company of Dr Sabri Zaki, the governor of Aswan. Heading the committee was Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, minister of state for educational and scientific research affairs; /he was accompanied by/ Eng Mahir Abazah, the minister of electricity, and Eng Taha Zaki, the minister of industry. As soon as it arrived, the committee of ministers went to the body of the High Dam, and they inspected the monument building.

At that point Eng Fu'ad 'Abd-al-'Aziz, chairman of the High Dam Lake Development Authority, stated that the High Dam's design could withstand the severest of earthquakes, that its body was sound and that no cracks or changes had occurred in the structure. A technical committee consisting of senior High Dam Authority engineers made an investigation in the inspection tunnels inside the body of the dam after each quake, and the committee officially affirmed that the dam was in good condition.

On top of the building of the High Dam monument, which is 57 meters above the body of the dam, Eng Taha Zaki, the minister of industry, said "It is well known that earthquakes have a great effect on high, elevated structures, but our field visit has confirmed that the structural concrete building on top of the dam is sound, meaning that the dam itself is sound. We have seen no cracks or fissures the length of the dam body, which we investigated and went along.

At the High Dam electrical plant, Eng Muhammad Ahmad al-Nufayli, inspector general of electric stations, who lives at the plant, presented a report in which he emphasized the solid condition of the structures in the plant and stated that the course of work is proceeding normally and that the electrical towers were not affected.

Eng Mahir Abazah, the minister of electricity, said "I made an investigation, with their excellencies the ministers, of the electric plant and the power line control room, which is 90 meters above ground level. Work there is proceeding as it should, no damage from tremors has occurred, the electrical towers are in sound condition and the plant is in sound condition. We thank God for that. In fact, the course of work in the new Aswan Reservoir electrical plant structure is proceeding well because the old Aswan Reservoir was not affected by the earth tremors either."

Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi requested to visit some schools where some classrooms sustained cracks. He visited the al-'Aqqad secondary school and the 'Abd-al-Hamid 'Abd-al-Ghaffur girls' preparatory school, reassuring himself over the course of the classwork. He examined the cracks and demanded that a technical committee be formed in the Department of Housing in the governorate to set out a report on correcting these cracks, although they are minor, in order to set the pupils and their guardians at ease. The minister determined to allocate the sum of 25,000 pounds at the outset for repairs in schools which sustained cracks from the earthquakes.

Confidence was established with the ministers' delegation, and the citizens in Aswan were reassured when the officials shared their fears. However, what must happen now is that we must tell the citizens what they should do and how they should act when earthquakes occur, especially since seismic maps record that the borders of Aswan Governorate lie within the mediterranean earthquake zones. Indeed, reports state that Aswan Governorate will be a center for earthquakes in the next 10 years. What preparations have we made to cope with this danger?

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IRAN

MINISTER REPORTS ON BUILDUP OF COPPER COMPLEX, GULF PORTS

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 13 Dec 81 p 6

[Interview with Dr Mohammad Taqi-Banki, minister without portfolio and head of the Plan and Budget Organization]

[Text] Dr Mohammad Taqi-Banki, minister without portfolio and head of the Plan and Budget Organization, in an interview with the economic correspondent of KEYHAN, addressed important issues concerning the results of his trip to Sistan and Baluchestan, next year's national budget, the buildup of the Sarcheshmeh copper complex, the future of the petrochemical complex of the Port of Imam Khomeyni, and the activities of the 10 committees for determining the foundation of the national economy.

Dr Banki first pointed out the constructiveness of his recent trip with brother Engineer Musavi, the prime minister, to Sistan and Baluchestan and said the following about the motivation, details, and results of that trip.

The Results of the Sistan and Baluchestan Trip

Basically, the policy of the previous regime was based on the notion that facilities should be transferred to easily accessible places, where it is easy to work and make money. Since in the past, we did not govern ourselves, but the Americans and dependent capitalists ruled us, and since the goal of the government was to pave the way for their work, consequently, they provided their fundamental and productive resources for places which were more easily accessible. He said: The regime of the Islamic Republic holds the opposite policy. The Koran has promised that the oppressed must govern the earth. The people have made a revolution for freedom and independence which can only be achieved under Islam. On this basis, in a conversation with brother Engineer Musavi, he said: We must go to various regions, especially the most deprived, pay more attention to

their needs, and allocate funds so that the inhabitants of this region are able to improve their deprived situation.

Concerning the importance of the Port of Chahbahar, he said: Essentially, the Port of Chahbahar is the most important strategic point in the open waters. Considering our constant war with the United States superpower, considering the complexity of this war and its length, and aware of the importance of the Persian Gulf to the United States, we must fully prepare ourselves to have a port in the open waters and be able to obtain our needs through it and offer our products to the world.

He added: Of course, during the time of the deposed shah, the United States considered this place very important and had prepared a several billion dollar project for its conspiratorial, terroristic plans in the region. Thank God, the Islamic revolution was victorious and that project was transformed into one which conforms to the needs of our society and which can respond to our great goals and vision.

He added: Our trip to Chahbahar was arranged so that we could visit the three ports which are being built for commercial affairs and fishing. An atmosphere of work and movement dominate the place, which pleased us. The prime minister gave instructions on this trip that the timetable for this plan be prepared with the assistance of the Plan and Budget Organization and that the results be obtained with the cooperation of other organizations as soon as possible.

Concerning the importance of sea resources and plans to be implemented for future fishing in the Port of Chahbahar, he said: Another issue concerning Chahbahar is the issue of fishing and raising the standard of living of the deprived people of that region. There are great natural resources in Chahbahar which have been neglected, since they had no use for foreigners.

He added: Because our revolution and our actions are geared to raising the standard of living of the oppressed, the government has taken serious steps in these regions, which we could readily detect. The people of this region expressed their satisfaction with the correct actions to increase the opportunities to make use of the natural resources of the sea.

In continuation, the minister without portfolio and head of the Plan and Budget Organization pointed out the limited capacity of the two existing refrigeration units in Chahbahar and Kenarak and said that the national Iranian airlines has expressed interest in transporting fish caught in the southern ports of the country to Tehran by airplane. In this case, the cost for every kg of fish will be 60-70 rials. It was decided that this should be done to make up for the shortage of meat in the country.

Concerning the production level of fisheries in the current year, Dr Banki said: Last year, national fishing production was 8,500 tons. Presently, we anticipate that we will have 20,000 tons by next spring.

Also, concerning providing the water needed in Sistan and Baluchestan, He said: This is an important problem in this region. The water shortage in Sistan and Baluchestan is not due to low atmospheric precipitation, because there is relatively a lot of rain; but, it is not stored. On the other hand, it is very rapid and seasonal.

He added: Preparations have been made for a series of dikes to collect the rainfall. Also, the Pishin dam, which is being built, is one of the essential steps. There are projects underway to bring water from Pishin dam to the villages. We spoke to the authorities of the region to help expedite the implementation of this plan.

Concerning the reason for his trip to Iranshahr, Dr Banki said: Since I felt that it was necessary to go to Iranshahr, I went there. Two things attracted me to Iranshahr: first is the Baft-e Baluch [textile] factory and second is the Bampur dam and the issue of irrigation, since this city is the only place which has a significant amount of fresh water. He added: The cloth manufacturing section of the Baft-e Baluch factory is nearly finished. The only parts left to be completed are the spinning and cotton preparation sections. Concerning the operation of the factory, we spoke to the brothers and suggestions were offered for the brothers to come up with basic ideas to start operations in this factory, which can absorb a great deal of manpower and will benefit the development of the region.

Concerning the Bampur dam, he said: The Bampur dam was built a long time ago and canals no 1 and 2 will be completed by the end of this year. Also, construction on canals 3 and 4 is about to start. He added: The trip to Sistan and Baluchestan was extremely constructive. The decisions that we must make are twofold: first, the work which must be done on location and second, what we must follow up in Tehran, which, God willing, we will be thinking about.

Startup of the Sarcheshmeh Copper Complex

In continuing his statements, the minister without portfolio and head of the Plan and Budget Organization said concerning the operations of the Sarcheshmeh copper complex: The start of the Sarcheshmeh copper complex was simultaneous with the government of Allende in Chile. Allende nationalized the Chilean copper industries and the Anaconda Company, which was working in Chile at the time, through a political maneuver to show Chile that it did not need Chilean copper that badly, banned the purchase of copper from Chile and, without any studies, created the large Sarcheshmeh copper factory in Iran.

He added: In any case, unfortunately, Allende was not able to survive, for whatever reason, and imperialism took over there. Immediately, the foreigners abandoned the Sarcheshmeh copper project and the work that had been started so abruptly and what, by their own calculations, should have been completed in 1975 or 1976 was left incomplete. He added: After the Islamic revolution, because of political pressures, lack of necessary efficient management, the dismissal of a number of foreign experts, and the need to study the various dimensions of the project carefully, this project was postponed. During the primiership of Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani, this issue was raised in the Economic Council and its importance was emphasized. One of the industrial advisors of the prime minister was given the responsibility for studying the project and offering a plan for its operation.

He added: The proposed plans were accepted by the Economic Council and it was approved that the industrial advisor to the prime minister would begin the operations of the complex with the clear program which was proposed.

Concerning the date for the operation of the complex, Dr Banki said: It is anticipated in the timetable that, God willing, the primary stage of purifying the copper ore will start operation this Jan. We hope to be able to begin production in late spring or early summer of next year.

Dr Banki added: The government intends to continue this parent industry with all its might and to obtain results. There is another mine called Miduk at the Sarcheshmeh copper mines, which has an abundance of copper resources. The government has approved excavation of this mine as well. In any case, copper from Sarcheshmeh, which is a fundamental raw material for parent industries, will, God willing, reach the market soon.

Activities of Committees for Determining the Economic Foundation

Concerning the state of the activities of the committees for determining the economic foundation, the minister without portfolio and head of the Plan and Budget Organization said: Presently, the 10 committees for determining the national economic foundation are working. The programs carried out by every group are as follows: defining the objectives and duties of the group; determining the timetable; dividing responsibilities; making the necessary studies to determine the resources and where they are needed; determining the basic principles and presuppositions based on the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the guidelines of the sacred laws of Islam, and the studies made; preparing initial, brief proposals; detailed work in the area of initial, brief proposals; and preparing the final, detailed proposal regarding the duties conferred.

He added: In all cases, except for the stage of preparing the initial, brief proposals, the results are presented in writing to the Economic Council and the Council gives instructions for future activities. Dr Banki added: Presently, the timetable for the first and second stages is being followed. The work of the three groups, which completed the first stage, was studied and approved by the Economic Council. Furthermore, last week, due to the importance and complexity of the work, the Economic Council approved the proposal that the society of religious teachers of Qom cooperate with and fully assist the committees determining the economic foundation, to avoid any kind of deviation. In this regard, a message was sent by the prime minister to Ayatollah Montazeri. Given the importance of the issue, he appointed Ayatollah Hoseyni-Nuri to provide cooperation in the necessary cases. God willing, he will be contacted soon to determine the cooperation procedure.

Budget of 21 Mar 82-20 Mar 83

Dr Bankin then, concerning the particulars of next year's budget, said: In accordance with Article 26 of the general accounting law, the budget of every year must be presented on 25 Jan of that year to the Majlis. He added: Since I have been given the responsibility for the Plan and Budget Organization, considering our experience of last year, the lack of a plan for the country, and the difficulties inherent in devising a budget, we have formed the budget headquarters. The members of the Plan and Budget Commission of the Majlis, the fully authorized representatives of the ministers, and the directors of operational organizations participated in this headquarters. He added: First, the general issues which must be studied were determined. We mobilized all the forces of the Plan and Budget Organization to do the preparatory stages of the budget. These efforts resulted in the prime minister's directives about the 21 Mar 82-20 Mar 83 budget to the operational organizations and institutions. He added: Here, explanations were necessary to inform the brothers responsible for implementation in the organizations. For this purpose, we held an explanatory session with the deputies of the governors-general for development, the representatives of operational organizations and institutions, and the directors of the plan and budget organizations of the provinces. In this meeting, we explained the details and the fundamental differences between the proposed budget of 21 Mar 82-20 Mar 83 and that of the previous year. We asked the brothers who are responsible for the plan and budget organizations and operational organizations in the provinces to take seriously the instructions of the prime minister and to take steps to implement them.

Also, it was decided that the experts and directors of the Plan and Budget Organization would cooperate with officials in operational organizations and those who are responsible for preparing the budget so that this job is done in the best possible way.

He added: Presently, 75 percent of the organizations have sent their budgets to the Plan and Budget Organization and the directors of the Organization are examining them. As far as we know, other organizations are preparing their budgets, but, due to existing shortcomings, they have not been able to send them to the Plan and Budget Organization. With the help of God, we hope that this also will be done quickly. Work has begun in the provinces and it has been decided that the budget will be prepared by 13 Dec and sent to the Plan and Budget Organization.

The Petrochemical Complex of the Port of Imam Khomeyni

Concerning the present and future situation of the petrochemical complex of the Port of Imam Khomeyni, Dr Mohammad Taqi-Banki said to the economic correspondent of KEYHAN: To create this complex, a company called the "Iran and Japan Petrochemical Company" was formed by Iran and a Japanese company. Each side was supposed to invest 50 percent. Of course, with the increase in oil exports, the contract gained new dimensions and the volume of money for this investment became larger. Before the victory of the Islamic revolution, they had raised the amount of this agreement to about 620 billion yen. But after the revolution, the issue was examined and the Revolutionary Council approved up to 750 billion yen being invested in this project. He said: However, with the eruption of the war, the Japanese abandoned this project, which created difficulties.

He added: If we wanted to implement this plan, we would have raised the issue in a different way.

But presently, expenses have been made and they must bring the most profit to the Islamic Republic. For this purpose, with all our power, we intend to complete and make this project operational. In conclusion, he added: The Economic Council, after re-examination, approved this project as beneficial and necessary and emphasized that the Iranian petrochemical company give all the necessary assistance to complete this project.

BRIEFS

NEW DEPUTY MINISTER OF ROADS--Engineer Hadinezhad Hoseynian, minister of roads and transport, has appointed Engineer 'Ali Mohammad Nurian to the office of deputy minister of the Ministry of Roads and Transport and new chief of Civil Aviation Organization, and he has begun work. The biography of the new chief of the Civil Aviation Organization, Engineer 'Ali Mohammad Nurian, is as follows: After graduating in the profession of construction from the Industrial College of Tehran, he was sent to England to continue his education at Cardiff University. Before the revolution, he worked for private construction companies. After the revolution, Engineer Nurian worked in the following positions: Supervisor of the Iman's Development Office, managing director for expanding the road network in Lorestan, adviser to the Governor General's Office of Lorestan, and deputy for development of the governor general of Lorestan; he also served for a while in the Ministry of the Interior. And now, he has been appointed to this post. [Text] [Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 25 Jan 82 p 1]

PRODUCTION UNITS FOR MAZANDARAN--During the month of Aban [23 Oct - 22 Nov 81], 59 permits were issued to establish industrial production units for the Province of Mazandaran. According to a PARS report citing a public relations spokesman of the General Department of Industries and Mines of the Province of Mazandaran, the activation of these units will be accomplished with a capital investment of 205,400,000 rials by the private sector and will give employment to 192 jobless workers. [Text] [Tehran BURS in Persian 6 Dec 81 p 2]

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BEGIN STATEMENTS IN NEW YEAR'S INTERVIEW CRITICIZED

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Oct 81 p 7

[Editorial: "A Picture Out of Sync With Reality"]

[Text] The prime minister knows that there is no support for the pretension of the chief rabbis which alleges that Jewish tradition ("Halakha") will displace law in the Jewish state. It is true, says Mr Begin in New Year interviews, that "the state has laws and it accepts Halakha as well, for example in the case of the Law of Marriage and Divorce and also essentially Rabbinic law.... The law determines what place Halakha has." But from this it must not be deduced that fundamentally "we are a state of law and simultaneously a state of Halakha," as though the rulings of the rabbis and the legislating of the Knesset are of equal strength. The prime minister knows, and indeed says, that "the source of acceptance of Halakha is the law." If this is the way things stand, then why this game with a slogan that blurs the difference in degree between secular law and Halakha as interpreted by the chief rabbis? Mr Begin needs the support of the religious factions. For that reason he throws out for public discussion the equality issue, even though it is clear to him that it is baseless, and he himself establishes that the law is the source of authority of Halakha, if the majority of the Knesset strengthened it for the purpose of governmental legislation.

The prime minister leaves no doubt that it is his intention to honor the provisions of the peace treaty with Egypt, even in the very painful case, for all of us, of evacuating the settlements in the Rafiah salient. "Threats and vigorous opposition cannot influence us, because this is the situation." If so, what about the squatters in Talmey Yosef? "From the standpoint of the moral power that the government wields in public, we may allow ourselves, thank God, not to dispatch troops to evacuate 16 families from Talmey Yosef." It might be inferred that the moral power of the government would suffice to carry out the evacuation with the help of the police, but that, too, was not done. Will the government, then, decide about that at its next meeting or postpone the evacuation until after the Ten Days of Penitence or until after the Simhat Torah holiday, or will it let the squatters remain in Talmey Yosef until the day before the deadline for final evacuation, as proof of its moral power?

We all recall with chagrin that the Syrians set up antiaircraft rocket batteries in the Lebanon valley. Three times the prime minister instructed the Air Force to destroy them, and it was only the unfavorable weather that prevented implementation of the order. Now Mr Begin says that these rockets are causing us "a

certain disruption...meanwhile, some time has elapsed, but often one must know how to wait a bit." What remains for us now is only to know that these rockets have been positioned there for 5 months now.

To the question of whether he is able to imagine the possibility that under the terms of the agreement (on the matter of Israel being integrated with American strategy) Israel would send its troops together with American troops to wage war against Soviet domination in the Region--in the Persian Gulf, for example--Mr Begin responded that he does not foresee this kind of eventuality. "The intention is not that our troops will be sent to various fronts, nor will there be such a need."

Mr Begin argues that the early preparations of the United States (to which Israel will lend assistance) will deter the Soviets and forestall a war. However, what is the explanation of the talk of the "umbrella" that our Air Force can provide for American forces? On the surface that is to be understood in the framework of Soviet aircraft approaching to attack U.S. ships or moving columns, in which case aircraft of the IDF will take off to intercept them. For if not this, what is the meaning of the term "umbrella?"

The prime minister argues that the meeting of Mr Yitzhak Shamir with Mr Andrey Gromyko should be chalked up to the strategic agreement with the United States. Former prime ministers, however, such as Abba Eban and Yigal Allon, met with the Soviet foreign minister without the existence of that fundamental agreement. When Moshe Dayan served as foreign minister, he declined to meet with his Russian counterpart until the latter took the initiative. Now Mr Begin has decided, for whatever reason, that there is no longer any point in acting stubborn on matters of status, and Mr Gromyko deigned to meet the Israeli foreign minister at the Soviet mission. Where is the diplomatic accomplishment?

The prime minister sought to color the picture of our national situation in rosy hues. But the reality is far more gloomy, and our memory is not nearly as short as he imagines.

8090
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MUBARAK SEEN CONTINUING SADAT'S DOMESTIC, FOREIGN POLICIES

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 9 Oct 81 p 11

[Article by Oded Zara'i: "Egypt After Sadat"]

[Text] The leaders of the new and developing administration in Egypt under the leadership of General Husni Mubarak will take advantage today and tomorrow of the presence of leaders from throughout the world who are participating in the funeral of the late president to once again emphasize their desire, their adherence to and their obligation to continuation of Sadat's policies on all levels. The stress in the unofficial discussions by the Egyptian leadership will probably be on the two partners to the Camp David agreements: Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin, and the American Secretary of State, Alexander Haig, and along with him the original partner to the peace agreement, former President of the United States Mr Jimmy Carter. The adherence and the obligation to the continuation are expressions that pass like a thread through the remarks of people of the administration, members of the government, the National Council, the ruling party and religious leaders over the past 3 days, as well as in the Egyptian public media. And yet the question, What will be the face of Egypt after Sadat, continues to preoccupy many states and factions in the world, and certainly the nearest state, the neighbor and partner in the peace agreement, Israel. As a matter of fact, even those privy to classified information about the Land of the Nile and its prominent figures do not presume to give unequivocal and categorical answers to this question, particularly when it relates to the long range. It should be remembered that Egypt is now in a transition stage. After the official and informal introduction during the course of the funeral today and tomorrow of the new president and his aides (it is doubtful whether these aides will continue to fulfill their current functions), a referendum will be conducted this coming Tuesday for election of the successor, Gen Muhammad Husni Mubarak. The following day the People's Council will assemble to ratify the election and immediately thereafter the resignation of the government is expected. Composition of the new cabinet will be the first step in the formation of the new administration of General Mubarak.

Emphasizing Continuity

But this will not be enough to create a total picture. Many, and important, questions will remain without answers during this stage. For example, what will be the makeup of the People's Council and the al-Shura Advisory Council and the ruling party, as well as the political situation, at least with respect to the

two opposition parties (the Communist and the Labor) which have some of their leaders in jail accused of assault against national stability and unity? Does the assassination, although it developed from a limited base, require steps against the army? These and other questions have, without a doubt, implications for the image of Egypt after Sadat.

In any case, it should be remembered that throughout the world, and that includes Israel, the personality of General Mubarak as vice president during the lifetime of Sadat made no more impression than that of Sadat himself when he was vice president during the lifetime of Nasir. Therefore, we must avoid repeating in October 1981 the error of October 1970. President Sadat's personality began to reveal itself only 8 months after he was elected president in May 1971, when he himself determined the focus of power in what has become known as the "reform revolution." Thus it is not impossible that during this stage we will not be sufficiently aware of the personality, the power and the mental processes of the new president. All of these are performance important factors in our inability to gain a complete picture of Egypt after Sadat. At the same time, we must not disregard the imperatives that are operating today on the Egyptian leader.

It appears as though the central theme in assuring a continuation of internal stability in the streets of Egypt today is emphasis on the continuity of the Sadat way, as quickly as possible and without leaving a vacuum at any level. The fewer tremors on the internal level the better; and on this issue General Mubarak has accomplished much. For, after all, the new president will be able to take up his post and exercise full authority less than a week after the previous ruler. In this way there should be no distinction between the internal and foreign policies, as given concrete expression during the days of Sadat's rule. But there is for this an additional imperative demanding that foreign continuity receive even greater emphasis. By that is meant completion of the peace initiative. The target date of 25 April is a holy Egyptian goal and every leader sitting in the Abdeen Palace, even without having been the adjutant, the loyalist and the comrade of the one who created the peace process, will be obliged to carry out this goal.

The third imperative, which is an existing and concrete fact, is demonstrated by the instruments that were prepared in sufficient time to give continuity to the administration. President Sadat did not leave a vacuum on the ruling level. He constructed what is described as "a state of foundations," that is, ruling foundations that assembled experienced functionaries some of whom even demonstrated efficiency and success in the assignments handed to them. The constitution was fashioned and made appropriate for present needs and for the foreseeable future; a ruling party was established that only 2 weeks ago carried out its second convention and adopted, after extended deliberation, a series of decisions and recommendations concerning all domestic and foreign areas. Most importantly, General Mubarak was not merely a partner in the fashioning of these instruments, he even supervised their formation. In recent months it was this same General Mubarak who served in all domestic matters as de facto president as well as being prime minister. We do not exaggerate by saying that even at the most recent meetings of the government, the ruling party and district governors, in the conduct of the Coptic Church and in the restrictive domestic steps, including those aimed at the universities and the mosques, it was General Mubarak who was the important and at

times sole player. All the decisions of the government on the matter of imposing law and discipline and fighting slovenliness were fashioned by General Mubarak, who presided over meetings of the government in recent weeks.

General Mubarak thus did not have to labor excessively to consolidate his rule, at least in comparison with other changes of rulers in the Arab world. First, it must not be forgotten that it was President Sadat who selected and qualified him to be heir, and this is not questioned, as indicated over the past few days in the National Council, in the main prayers during the first day of the holiday, in the ruling party, in the districts and in the military. It is possible that there are elements that question the leadership of the general who rose to the top at so dizzying a pace, but in the reality that presently exists it is difficult to imagine that this questioning will gain concrete expression. Similarly, it can be assumed that already in the consolidation stage, General Mubarak will be wise enough to neutralize these elements.

Thus, on the basis of the data and the influences we have set forth, it would appear that Egypt today under the leadership of Gen Husni Mubarak will be the same Egypt as that under the leadership of the late Sadat, but in a different style. Egypt after Sadat, at least for now, will be more disciplined and less forgiving on the domestic level. In addition to the objective existing conditions, General Mubarak, being a diligent military man, places importance on discipline and lack of forgiveness, for those who depart from established rules. The state of emergency that was declared in Egypt on the day of the assassination is in effect the most potent tool for dealing with those subversive elements that enjoyed a certain permissiveness in recent years.

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RABBI DRUCKMAN DISCUSSES SINAI WITHDRAWAL, NRP POLITICS

Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 6 Nov 81 Weekend Supplement p 8

[Article by Yosef Shavit: "'I Will Fight to the End Against Uprooting the Settlements in the Yamit Region'; Member of Knesset Rabbi Hayim Druckman Maintains Israel Should Postpone Sinai Evacuation by 1 Year to Test Egypt's Intentions; 'Under Existing Circumstances I See This Government As Best Government, Although I Disagree on Yamit; I Saw My Acceptance of Deputy Minister of Religious Affairs Post as Way To Rehabilitate NRP--My Resignation Caused Great Upheaval in Party; I Assumed Dr Burg Would Prefer Overall Interest to Factional Interest'"]

[Text] Rabbi Hayim Druckman must have set a new record in our political life: for 3 months he held the title of deputy minister of religious affairs without once crossing the threshold of his office. Last week this strange ministerial career came to an end. In a short letter of resignation, which was put on Minister Burg's desk, the Knesset member rabbi complained: "...I have kept all the difficulties and all the abuse to myself."

A few days before his resignation--not having taken charge of his office--I asked Rabbi Druckman: You gave up your job while harboring strong grievances against Dr Burg. Didn't you know what your job description and your authority were beforehand?

Rabbi Druckman: "When I was offered the job during the coalition negotiations I made it clear I would only accept the ministry of religious affairs in its entirety. There are precedents for this in our movement. When Moshe Hayim Shapira served as minister of the interior and of religious affairs his deputy in the Ministry of Religious Affairs was Dr Zerah Warhaftig, who in effect served as the minister of religious affairs. When Shapira was minister of the interior and of health, Dr Yitzhak Rafael was in effect minister of health. This has special importance now, because of the difficulties the Ministry of Religious Affairs has just gone through. There is no doubt in my mind that in order to rehabilitate the ministry one person must be in charge."

"I would also like to add that, objectively speaking, in the present government, the deputy minister of religious affairs is in a different position from all other deputy ministers because Dr Burg is not only minister of religious affairs but also minister of the interior. He is responsible for the police and he serves

as chairman of the autonomy committee.... Take, for example, Minister Abu-Hatzira, who is minister of labor and welfare as well as of immigrant absorption. He has entrusted the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption to his deputy, Aharon Ozen."

Responsibility for the Ministry

When you clarified your position prior to accepting the position, did Dr Burg agree to the arrangement?

"I clarified the matter to all concerned, including Dr Burg. When the executive committee of the NRP picked me as deputy minister of religious affairs, it did not occur to me that things would work out differently from what was made clear initially. But after I was appointed by the government and by the Knesset, I found out it was something entirely different. At first Dr Burg asked me to take care of Bnai Akiva schools, Hesder schools and ministry affairs in the territories. When I refused, another offer was made--I should learn about the issues facing the ministry and then it would be decided what I would do. I did not agree to this either. I stood on principle--if I take the job, the entire ministry must become my responsibility."

Why did you wait 3 months?

"The truth is, the whole period was very difficult for me. But I did not want to bring it out in the open. I realized it would not be good for our party, which has suffered enough in the last elections. I said to myself, you shouldn't make it worse, rather you should help rehabilitate the party. In joining the ministry I saw a way for partial rehabilitation of the party. Let me explain. Here a man who is not a member of a faction gets a government post on behalf of the party. This, in my opinion, helps rehabilitate a party that is torn by factionalism.... The fact that the media kept insisting that I was looking for power really hurt me. After all, it was not a personal matter. I represent many members who believe, and rightly so, that if the NRP has a third ministry it should be given to me in its entirety."

It is rumored that Dr Burg's decision to appoint as the director general of the ministry a member of his faction, Rabbi Moshe Solomon, is what tipped the scale.

"I would like to make it clear that I have nothing personal against Rabbi Solomon. My objection to his appointment stemmed only from the question of who is the right person to appoint the director general. If I am to run the ministry then quite naturally I have to agree to it. He may veto my suggestion. But I am the one who should suggest. One thing must be made clear: I had no intention of acting behind Dr Burg's back. I wanted to work with him in full cooperation and loyalty. Anyone who knows me would agree. I had assumed that as the leader of the NRP, he would prefer the overall interest to the factional interest...."

To Open the Ranks

Do you intend to raise the matter before the party?

"Not I personally. But I understand there is a great upheaval in the party and others may."

Lately more and more people in the party are saying that it is time Dr Burg let younger men lead the party. Do you agree?

Rabbi Druckman closes his eyes, purses his lips and thinks. After 3 minutes (I looked at my watch) he turns to me: "Could you withdraw your question?"

I refuse to withdraw my question. He stops and thinks again. It is clear he would like to find an honorable way out of my question. "What did you ask?" he says after a long pause.

I slowly repeat my question.

A sudden smile indicates that he has finally found the right answer. "Dr Burg need not give up his position as long as he can make a contribution to the state and to the party. At the same time, others should be included in the leadership in all areas."

Don't you think that a rehabilitation of the party entails changes at the top?

"Rehabilitation requires involving all elements of the party. I have already mentioned that factionalism undermines the party and we should do away with it forthwith. We should soon hold personal elections, open our ranks to tens of thousands of supporters of religious Zionism, alumni of Bnai Akiva, of religious educational institutions and the pioneers in the many different settlements throughout Israel."

What is stopping them from participating in the party?

"At this stage, only those who are members of the Hapoel Hamizrahi can vote in the internal elections to the party. That entails membership in the general health organization (Kupat Holim). This is only a small part of the potential of religious Zionism supporters. If there is opening of the ranks, we will attract good people who can rebuild the party. The present situation perpetuates the factionalism, which undermines the party. I plan to talk to various groups in the party. This is also the position of Minister Hammer and I hope that together we can work toward changing the situation."

"I Didn't Push Myself"

Are you hinting at a possible coup?

"I am not hinting at anything. My position is clear: We must make drastic changes in the party, and the sooner the better."

Do you see yourself in any particular line-up as the number one man?

My interviewee waves his hands: "My dear friend, I am talking about the party and its vision. I am not talking about myself. I only make my modest contribution to this cause. I entered political life because I was asked to do so. I

didn't push myself. I recognized the need and the value of it. This is why I continue, despite all the personal hardships."

You recently moved with your family to Yamit, to show your objection to returning the area to Egypt. At the same time, you represent a party in the Knesset that supports the government's policy, including the Camp David accords and the peace treaty. Is there a conflict of interest?

"Under the present circumstances, I see this government as the best possible government, although I totally disagree with it on the issue of Yamit. The alternative to this government is certainly no better, since it would be willing to give up other parts of the land of Israel. This is why I support this government and will continue to fight to the end against the uprooting of settlements. It is my deepest conviction that we are not allowed to uproot a settlement in the land of Israel or give up parts of this land. This is a religious, national and moral question of the first degree. There is also a great danger that we might set a precedent for other places in this land. The government argues that Yamit is not a precedent, but any removal of settlements is a dangerous precedent."

The NRP members of the Knesset are not of one political mind. Isn't your place in the Tehiya movement, which shares your views?

"I believe in the vision of all of Israel for the people of Israel, according to the Torah of Israel. This is the vision of religious Zionism, which the NRP must fulfill. This is why I belong to the NRP. We mustn't forget that our party platform for the last elections stated that the party would work within the peace agreement to keep the Yamit settlements in Israel. This was brought up in our coalition negotiations and the NRP wrote a letter to Begin stating its position and asking the government to work in this direction. The prime minister acknowledged receipt of this letter, and the two letters are an addendum to the coalition agreement.

"The danger to Yamit is not a purely partisan question. It concerns all of Israel. This is why I believe we must cooperate with all those who are against the uprooting of settlements, certainly with the Tehiya. I work with members of that movement, but my struggle for the Yamit regions is conducted as member of the NRP and of the coalition, which makes it more weighty."

The Appropriate Way

Israel has committed itself in writing to vacate the Yamit region. Are you saying that we should ignore this commitment?

"First, we must look for ways to keep the region. A person who has given his written permission to have a part of his body cut off will do everything he can to prevent it. I have always felt that way, and now I feel even more strongly than ever that this is the case following the murder of Sadat, when something happened in Egypt and no one knows what may happen next. Under the new circumstances, Israel must in my opinion delay the evacuation of the rest of the Sinai at least for 1 year so as to test the new developments in Egypt. During that

time we ought to look for an appropriate way to keep the settlements in the Yamit region."

Does that mean Israel would break the peace treaty?

"I am not saying that Israel should break the treaty. Something did happen in Egypt. Therefore, I am saying, let's tell Egypt we want to continue the peace process, but we will postpone evacuation of the Sinai for 1 year to make sure their plans have not changed."

And you really think they would agree?

"Do we always act according to Egyptian agreement? What about our own needs? We now have greater misgivings than ever before. This is why Israel must insist on its interests!"

Even at the cost of nullifying the peace agreement?

"If, indeed, the Egyptians are sincere, if indeed they want peace, I don't see why the peace treaty should be voided if we postpone evacuation of the rest of the Sinai for 1 year. We have already given them back half of the Sinai and we are keeping our word about giving back the rest. But we first want to make sure they keep their end of the bargain. Aren't we entitled?"

And what if they refuse?

Rabbi Druckman does not hesitate: "In that case, we must seriously doubt their intentions in regard to peace."

And what conclusions do we derive from this?

"That we should regret having returned the part we did and that certainly we should not give back the rest."

Let us say, for the sake of the scenario, that Egypt agrees to postpone the evacuation for 1 year. How do we manage when the year is up to keep the settlements in the Yamit region?

"If we give them 99 percent of the Sinai, including the oil fields and the air-fields, isn't that proof enough that we want peace? Hence, we have the right to demand to keep the settlements. We must find out what the Egyptian position is in this regard before we give up the rest of the Sinai. If we find out that the Egyptians refuse to come to an understanding about the Yamit region, this would be a clear indication that they are not really interested in peace. If this is the case, we can only weep for what we have already given back and keep the rest with all that that entails."

A Symbolic Matter

In other words, unilaterally cancel the peace treaty?

"I have already said, with all that it entails. The peace treaty in any event will then be of little value."

Let's be realistic. It is safe to assume that the government will honor its commitments and will complete the evacuation of the Sinai on schedule. What will you do then? As things stand in the Knesset, can your vote bring down the government?

I will weigh my decision according to the circumstances. I hope it will not come to that.... If I thought I could save the Yamit region by casting my vote I certainly would do it."

Were you one of those who were glad Sadat died?

"I was not one of the mourners.... I saw it as a symbolic thing, that is, the fact that he was assassinated while he celebrated his victory in the Yom Kippur War. Quite naturally I couldn't help remembering the thousands of Israeli dead that he was responsible for."

But can you completely ignore his peace efforts?

"In my opinion Sadat was trying to achieve through peace what he could not achieve through war."

You said before that you would fight to the end to prevent the uprooting of the Yamit settlements. What do you plan to do in the near future?

"I will organize a movement in the NRP that will bring together all those who accent my position and are willing to fight for it."

As I recall, it was at your house that the Gush Emunim was organized. Will you include the Gush in this struggle?

"Definitely!"

A Legitimate Struggle

Are you willing to take up arms if it becomes necessary in order to prevent the evacuation of the region?

"I am against any violence, especially among Jews. But I will use all legitimate methods of public struggle."

Allow me to end with a personal question. Before you entered political life you were considered a charismatic educator by the generation of the knit skullcaps. After 4 years of political life, don't you feel you are in the wrong ball game?

"I still consider education my ball game and continue my educational work. At the same time, sharing the leadership of Israel is a game I cannot shun, even if I do not play exactly like the others."

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MOSHE ARENS'S ACCEPTANCE OF DIPLOMATIC POST QUESTIONED

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 12 Nov 81 p 9

[Article by Mati Golan: "A Man for All Seasons"]

[Text] Many professors have gone through Israeli political life. Nearly all of them found out that their academic experience did not provide a guarantee for success in this area. In some instances they became fed up with politics; in others, politics became fed up with them.

One of the exceptions, perhaps the only one, is the professor of aeronautical engineering, Moshe Arens. The abrupt switch he made from the aircraft industry to political life appeared almost natural, devoid of pain. If one may borrow a romantic phrase, it was love at first sight. Like all love, his too had its crises, its ups and downs, but it did not falter. In fact, Arens seems to have emerged from all his crises stronger personally and politically.

Like all politicians, Arens too has rivals, but no enemies. It is hard not to like him, his careful way of dressing and his friendly expression, which combines intellectualism and playful irony.

Ideologically he belongs to the extreme right. He is closer in his views to Geula Cohen than to Menachem Begin. Nevertheless, he continues to walk confidently alongside the prime minister long after Geula Cohen and her friends have retired to the political desert to conduct guerrilla warfare against their erstwhile friends.

Not only did Arens refuse to join his ideological colleagues, in the public mind as well as privately he does not align himself with them. His quiet exterior, his measured speech, his low-key style have contributed considerably to his image. There must be something in his character, in his engineering background, that has created this attitude. He is a good designer, and he knows where to draw the red line beyond which danger lurks. So far he has been able to maneuver within acceptable bounds. He is respected by nearly all groups in the Knesset and by the various groups in the government coalition. More than anyone else in Israeli politics he is a man for all seasons. But unlike Thomas More, he will never be led to the gallows. While his ideological comrades march toward their political death, he will stand by with a sad, philosophical expression on his face.

This trait of character explains the unusual fact that his rivals do not dislike him but rather wish him well. They know they can count on his talent to walk among the raindrops and know on which side his bread is buttered.

Lipservice to Principles

Arens's talents found clear expression in the peace agreement with Egypt. This agreement is undoubtedly the cornerstone of Israeli foreign and defense policy in recent years. Arens voted against the agreement and has not changed his mind about it. Nevertheless, he did not give up his job as chairman of the foreign relations and security committee of the Knesset, which helps promote the peace process and supervises it.

Recently, the first parliamentary delegation went to Egypt, headed by Moshe Arens. His behavior during this mission was typical. At least twice in meetings with members of parliament and with President Sadat he brought up a divergent suggestion: aware of the feelings of the Israeli public, he said that Egypt should weigh once again giving up the Rafah salient, perhaps in return for another area. The reaction was as unequivocal as it was angry. There was an agreement, and Israel had to carry it out verbatim. Bringing up such suggestion at that stage of the game did not foster trust between the two nations.

Arens did not argue. As a real intellectual he certainly did not expect a different reaction. Indeed, he did not voice his suggestion expecting to hear a favorable reaction. He felt he owed it to himself to do justice to his own convictions. Once he came out with it he did not find it difficult to return to the official government policy.

Now Arens has gone out again at the head of a parliamentary delegation, this time to the United States. The stated purpose of the delegation was to explain to the American public Israel's rejection of the Saudi peace plan. In fact, this is not so. The government's objection to the Saudi plan is not self-contained. It is part of a policy that says the only basis for peace in the area is the Camp David accords, to which Arens objects.

Arens's finest hour was when he declined the prime minister's offer to serve as minister of defense after Ezer Weizman's resignation. It is hard to recall anyone giving up such a high post because of principles. The fact is that Yitzhak Shamir, who also voted against the peace agreement, could not resist the temptation.

Arens explained his refusal in that he could not be a member of a government that violates his principles. He was not willing or ready to be part of decisions that will lead to completing the evacuation of the Sinai and of the settlers in the Rafah salient and in Sharm al-Shaykh.

This is a noble example of the highest kind of political sacrifice. Yet it is precisely against this backdrop that one must marvel at his decision to accept the post of ambassador to Washington.

The Path Among the Raindrops

It is a sad response, because it is not possible that Arens, as a wise man, could believe it is right. If there is a difference, then it is just the opposite. As a senior minister in the government, Arens might have been able to influence decisions. He could have expressed his opinions, protested, fought and voted against the government's positions.

An ambassador, on the other hand, does not have all these advantages. His exclusive job is to represent the government, explain its positions, promote them, defend them. If reports are correct, he will begin in February. It will be 2 months before the final withdrawal from the Sinai. Under the best of circumstances there will be stormy demonstrations. They will be shown on American television. The ambassador will be asked to react. What will Ambassador Arens say? Will he condemn the demonstrators? Will he defend them? Will he support the withdrawal? Will he be against it?

Since he is truly a wise man, I am sure Arens will find a way to live with his conscience without risking his position. Yet none of this answers the nagging question--why ambassador and not minister of defense?

Perhaps the difficulty of finding an answer to this question stems from the basic mistake about the approach to this kind of question. It is natural to impute to politicians political motives. We keep forgetting that they are people who are guided, like all of us, by human and personal considerations. Since from the standpoint of conscience there is no difference between minister and ambassador, these then must have been Arens's decisive considerations. From bits and pieces of conversations and remarks, I get the feeling that Arens simply became fed up.

He is a native American and he might have felt the need to return there for a while. What a better way to do it than as an ambassador?

He will be a good ambassador. His English is impeccable. He has very good television presence. He is friendly, intellectual and has a good sense of humor. There too he will find the road in the raindrops, the path between what is possible and his desire. The Americans will love him. It is doubtful whether he will love himself.

LABOR HAWKS REJECT ALIGNMENT WITH MAPAM, DEBATE TALKS WITH PLO

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 27 Sep 81 p 6

[Article by Moshe Meiseles: "Hawks in Labor Demand Activist Line"]

[Text] Hard criticism of the "lenient" policy line of the Labor Party was voiced yesterday at the assemblage of the Manof Activist Group at Berl House, which counts among its members heads of the hawk camp in the party.

Amos Hadar demanded dismantling of the alignment with MAPAM and the establishment of an activist line so that it would be perfectly clear what the Labor Party is. "Shimon Peres must be told: 'Either be a leader or resign,'" said Hadar. "The 'bluff' of the supermarket can no longer exist. I prefer the Likud to the PLO sympathizers among us. Peres should be called up for an interrogation by us. He is not master of the party. We could have been partners in a national alignment government but responded to a hard-hitting argument."

Knesset member Shlomo Hillel said that "in the past it was customary in the Labor Party to establish positions and to make sure they were implemented despite tangential opinions and objections. There was a credible image to the policy line. Today, the situation is reversed. Those who rush to the microphones establish the image, not the leadership. There is developing an activist movement in the party whose goal is to suppress the lenient tendencies in it. The process of legitimizing the Likud in the nation is growing, along with the process of legitimizing the Alignment. Most of the members of the Eastern communities upon whom our return to power depends are immersed in political activism."

Knesset member Tamar Eshel said that we must consider whether conditions have not been created under which we should think again about completing the Sinai withdrawal.

Simha Dinitz disputed the proposition of Knesset member Motte Gur who declared in the auditorium that there should be negotiation with every Palestinian element that will recognize Israel and desist from terror. He argued that what is said in the environment of the party on this issue removes the conduct of negotiations with the PLO from the realm of possibility. All discussion about what will happen if the PLO changes its character is damaging, futile words.

Meir Bralli argued that only the road of Labor makes it possible to preserve Eretz Yisrael for the people of Israel. When one speaks of territorial compromise, it is difficult to know what is intended, if it is the division of Judea and Samaria or the partition of Eretz Yisrael according to the line of 1949. Partition in the Golan would be absurd. On Yom Kippur we saw that the Golan Heights is small and not large enough.

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SEISMIC TESTS CONFIRM PREDICTIONS OF OIL IN WESTERN GALILEE

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 Oct 81 p 1

[Article by Mikhael Garty: "Seismic Test Bears Out Prof Freund Forecast of Oil Prospects in Western Galilee"]

[Text] Preliminary examination of seismic data assembled in recent months in a series of field tests in the Orot rights area in the western Galilee reveals that the findings verify the predictions of the late Prof Rafi Freund, who proposed that oil drilling be undertaken there.

As will be recalled, Prof Freund left the drilling plan that he had prepared for the rights area to his heirs and the proposed drilling site was kept secret pending the signing of an agreement under which the heirs would receive a share of the drilling rights if petroleum indeed were to be discovered at the site.

Prof Freund proposed, in documents left by him, the undertaking of seismic tests in the area, preparatory to the drilling, and recommended that they be used as verification of the geological structure that prompted him to propose drilling. As stated, the preliminary tests verify his estimate. With development of the completed data, the HANA Company will determine the precise site for the proposed drilling that will be introduced to the professional committee of the company for approval.

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MINISTRY PREPARES MASTER PLAN TO BALANCE IMPORTS, EXPORTS

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 9 Oct 81 p 3

[Article by HA'ARETZ economics correspondent: "Increase in Export, GNP and Number of Industrial Workers"]

[Text] The Ministry of Industry and Commerce is presently preparing a master plan for industry for the next 10 years, as reported this week by Minister Gideon Pat in his address before the general assembly of the Manufacturers' Federation, which was held in Tel Aviv. The principal components of the plan will be:

An increase in real raw-material manufacturing output (in 1980 producer market prices) to 190 billion shekel in 1990 compared with 90 billion shekel in 1980. This means an average increase of 7 percent annually during the period.

An increase in industrial export, including diamonds, from 4.5 billion dollars in 1980 to 11.4 billion dollars in 1990. This will be an annual increase of 8.5 percent.

An increase in the number of workers in manufacturing. By the end of the decade, some 420,000 workers will be employed in manufacturing compared with some 300,000 today.

Mr Pat stated that if these forecasts materialize, manufacturing by the end of the decade will approach a balance between its intake of foreign exchange through export and its outlay of foreign exchange for the purchase of equipment and raw materials (including commitments for manufacturing for the domestic market). Exports will then cover 88 percent of overall imports. In discussing the policy of reducing imports, he said: "I shall not permit the State of Israel to become a Garden of Eden for importers and a hell for manufacturers. I shall not stand idly by while enterprises lay off workers."

Increase in Development Area Investment

It would appear from Mr Pat's remarks that he intends to undertake measures that would limit the imports taking place with floating prices. The minister did not elaborate on this matter.

On another issue, Minister Pat said that 78 percent of all investments that had been approved for industry last year were in the development areas, as against 48 percent in 1978. Thirty percent of those employed in the development areas are today engaged in manufacturing. Last year, he added, more than \$40 million were invested in research and development in industry. Mr Pat further stated that there should be legislation encouraging investment in research and development and that he is now studying laws that were passed recently in the United States on this matter, with the purpose of initiating them here.

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DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS INTERVIEWED

Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 19 Oct 81 p 16

[Interview with Yusef al-'Alwi, Omani Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs: "Ta'if Conference: Joint Strategy to Defend Gulf Security; Prince Fahd's Plan is an Alternative to All the Solutions that Failed; Libyan-Ethiopian-Aden Alliance Will Create Difficulties for the Region's States; Western Presence is Tied to Building the Third Gulf Force"]

[Text] AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM met with the Omani deputy minister of foreign affairs, Yusef al-'Alwi, before he left for New York to deliver his country's speech before the UN General Assembly. We raised a number of questions about the general situation in the Gulf area, preparatory to the holding of the second Gulf summit in Riyadh, which has been postponed until 10 November. Based on al-'Alwi's information, the GCC foreign ministers for the first time, in their recent meeting, discussed preparing a joint strategy to protect Gulf security, and the plan that Prince Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz recently proposed to solve the area's crisis, a positive plan which all the GCC states have endorsed. Oman believes that this plan is an alternative to all the solutions that so far have failed. However, with respect to the fact that some of the Arab states support this plan, while some do not, what is required is a unified Arab position in any dialogue with any party searching for a solution to the area's crisis.

[Question] What is the general atmosphere within the GCC after the recent meeting?

[Answer] The recent meeting held in Ta'if, within the framework of the GCC, was in our opinion very successful and achieved very large steps forward. In Oman, we were extremely pleased with these results, the most important being that the other member states in the Council were able to see clearly the reality of the plots that are being perpetrated against their region and against the Gulf states. On this basis and from this premise, the discussions which were held among the ministers in closed sessions were very valuable. For the first time, the ministers discussed in detail the dangers and threats and broached the possibilities of drafting a joint strategy to maintain the security and stability of the region. This would be by applying the principle that all the Gulf nations are emphasizing, that the security and stability of the Gulf are the responsibility of its states. God willing, this principle will be followed by positive results and steps.

[Question] There are differing endeavors among the GCC nations. Some states prefer to give priority to security issues, and Oman is of this school of thought, while some other states think that the economic aspect should be given first priority. Was there agreement on setting priorities within the GCC?

[Answer] Undoubtedly, both schools represent positive thinking within the GCC nations. Perhaps, in the past, the security question represented the most important to the council states, based on the fact that we must consolidate interests among the Gulf states first, so that this will strengthen the nature of the work and coordination in the security and defensive fields among the member nations. Present political circumstances in the region support the view that there can be no postponement of defensive and security issues. However, the economic school of thought and the security school are in harmony, and are heading in the same direction. It is within the GCC member nations' ability to achieve the two goals at the same time. In fact, this was the consensus at the recent Ta'if meeting.

[Question] About the security question: after reading the statement issued by the Ta'if conference, can one reconcile the words with reality (keeping the Gulf area out of military disputes, and defending the Gulf is the responsibility of its people, etc.)? Do you view that as possible, given the political and military currents which surround the area, the establishing of military bases here and military bases there?

[Answer] This is the GCC's goal, to keep the region clear of major disputes, on the basis of the principle that the presence of a major power will inevitably result in the appearance of the other power, apart from everyone that wants to insure their interests in this sensitive region. This is a theory that perhaps at times, or at least in the past, had some special qualities. Some parties and quarters were convinced of this principle, that is, that the United States' presence would compel the Soviet Union to have a presence, or vice versa, if the Soviet Union was present, then the United States would act to increase its presence in the region. However, the present reality has created or isolated new concepts. Why should we bequeath this region to the dispute between the two super powers, the United States and the Soviet Union? Why don't we create a third power, the self-defense power of the GCC states? This is the direction, and this will achieve the principle that Gulf security is the responsibility of its states.

The Soviet Danger Remains

[Question] On this basis, do you expect significant changes in the general situation in the region, in terms of keeping the major powers from military and political interference in the region?

[Answer] What most concerns us in Oman is the developing and strengthening of our self-defense capabilities, to put us in a posture where we can prevent any threat or danger to us from outside. This is the principle in which the member states agreed with us. Our view is that the chief danger is the threat of the Soviet Union to the region, whether direct or indirect, through those states that are under its influence.

In our concept, the nations of the region, if they are able to build a self-defense force, would then be able to stand up against the dangers of the threat, or at least, stand against those nations that the Soviet Union supports. Consequently, the influence of the Western nations would decline, and there would be no cause for American or Western military presence in the area, because the area would depend upon itself, since the nations of the area would be the ones to defend themselves. However, the thing that we face is not within our ability to eliminate, and that is the Soviet threat and presence in the region. Therefore, the struggle will be changed from a struggle between the United States and the Western nations on the one hand, and the Soviet Union and its allied nations on the other, into a struggle between the GCC nations and those nations that the Soviets support, which means that the Soviet danger is alive and present. The Soviet presence will not be withdrawn in any event, whether the West withdraws or the Gulf nations increase their defensive capabilities and depend on themselves to defend the Gulf.

[Question] Are we to understand from that that you in Oman are prepared to limit the permitted American facilities in exchange for a reduction in the size of Soviet facilities by the other side, with regard to those who do business with the Soviet Union? In other words, are you prepared, in the event of any sign by South Yemen to reduce the Soviet presence in Aden, for Oman to reduce the level and size of American facilities there?

[Answer] First, the Soviet presence in the region, and specifically in South Yemen, falls within the long-range Soviet strategy, which is implemented in stages. South Yemen cannot alter this situation at all. This is a basic truth which we see clearly without the least ambiguity. We have given South Yemen every opportunity and means to relinquish this course of action. South Yemen, despite being afforded the opportunity, and despite the efforts made by the Gulf nations to find a kind of co-existence between them and South Yemen, or between South Yemen and its neighbors in general, nevertheless, all these efforts have failed. With regard to Western presence, and the possibility of giving facilities to the United States, or reducing them, this is a question that is tied to the possibility that the Gulf states can build their self-defense force. If we as a group of six nations can build a self-defense force capable of at least standing up to South Yemen, Ethiopia and the nations supporting them, then there will be no difficulties in depending on ourselves. Consequently, the United States and the Western nations, as I said at the outset, will have their presence reduced. Perhaps they, themselves, will want not to have a presence in the region, so long as the nations of the region are capable of bearing the responsibility themselves.

[Question] The appearance of Gulf changes in looking at Oman have been noted. Let us take for example the statement of the GCC secretary general. What are the reasons for this change?

[Answer] After the signing of the agreement establishing the GCC, and in the summit meetings between the heads of states, kings and princes, and in the many meetings that have been held, Oman in all sincerity has placed before its brothers in the Gulf, within the framework of the GCC, the Sultanate's strategic concept, which is the plan that we prepared to defend our country, our independence and our gains. It is the steps that Sultan Qabus drew up to stand against any foreign attack. After all these facts were submitted to the GCC ministers, kings and princes, it was

undoubtedly after this that another completely different concept was created than existed in the past. All of us began to look at matters the same way. There were those who began to realize that we took those steps only because there was a need for them.

Efforts to Mend the Rift

[Question] With regard to relations with South Yemen, we know that some efforts at mediation between Muscat and Aden have been made. We refer specifically to Kuwait which has made efforts to mend the rift. With respect to the failure of these attempts of these attempts, are we to consider that the efforts have definitely ceased, and what are the future possibilities?

[Answer] The efforts that have been made, and specifically recently by Kuwait, to whom we are grateful, attempted to give new impetus to the concept of co-existence. Sultan Qaboos told the officials in Kuwait, in all sincerity, that he supported the Kuwaiti efforts and that we were prepared to open a new page with South Yemen. However, South Yemen took a negative stance. When we came to the important points, which the other steps would follow, we were met with negativism. This was what made clear to the brothers in the Gulf that Yemen had no desire to find a kind of co-existence between it and its neighbors. That was clearly proved by the tri-partite agreement or alliance, which was recently signed between Libya, Ethiopia and South Yemen, and whose goals are to create problems and difficulties within the Gulf states.

The Tripartite Alliance and the Gulf

[Question] What is the GCC's view of the establishment of this alliance?

[Answer] There is great concern about the danger of this agreement and of this new alliance. The information reaching the Gulf states about the reasons for the establishment of this alliance has been sufficient to cause these nations to take rapid measures and to prepare to combat the dangers which will result from this tripartite alliance.

The Sultanate and the Camp David Accords

[Question] From the Gulf context to the general situation in the area: we know that Oman supported the Camp David accords, but at another time, it sensed that the peace efforts between Egypt and Israel had reached an impasse due to well-known Israel intransigence. Is there anything new in Oman's position vis a vis Camp David and with respect to a new peace in the area?

[Answer] Our position is a basic one. We do not oppose any effort to bring a just and lasting peace to the region. However, there are also principles that govern such positions. These principles were established in the Arab League and the summit conferences. There must be a complete Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territory. The Palestinians must determine their own fate themselves. If the opportunity comes for their self-determination, and the Palestinians decide to establish a state, then this must be recognized.

Camp David was an attempt by Egypt and the United States to find room to bring a lasting and comprehensive peace to the region. Our premise was that we would not oppose this matter, if this was the direction. To the best of our knowledge, Egypt was still adhering to the same basic principles, that the Palestinians must have their say in the future and that Israel must withdraw from the occupied Arab territory. So far, we have noted no change in Egypt's position with respect to the basic principles, so that consequently, we are [not] changing our position. Egypt is still calling for guarantees to achieve the basic principles upon which the Arabs agree.

In any event, Israel has refused positive cooperation to achieve the principles set forth in the Camp David accords, the most important of which is the establishment of a Palestinian authority on, and the withdrawal of the Israeli military authority from, the West Bank and Gaza. This is something that has not been achieved so far. The period of time set to implement this matter is running out without anything being achieved. The one responsible for this, in our view, is Israel and not Egypt.

Prince Fahd's Plan

[Question] However, regarding the failure of Camp David in being a solution, and it is a unilateral solution or the desire for just one side so far for peace, is there a specific alternative?

[Answer] The possible alternatives now is the plan which Prince Fahd is offering. This was the subject of discussion in the recent GCC meeting, on the basis that these principles can be crystallized into a unified Arab position, so that afterwards, the issue could be discussed within the framework of the United Nations perhaps, or within the framework of the European Common Market. The important thing is that the Arabs have a definite plan to make clear the goal towards which they are striving.

[Question] After the Camp David accords, it became known that Egypt was going in one direction and the other Arab states in another. Do you see in Prince Fahd's plan an attempt to re-unite the Arab ranks, and then to present a single Arab plan of action to solve the Arab-Israeli dispute?

[Answer] All I know is that several Arab states have expressed support for Prince Fahd's plan, while other Arab parties have opposed this plan. In any event, this plan was submitted so that we could discuss it at the next summit conference in Rabat.

Fear of a New Schism

[Question] But, how about the possibility of an Arab divisive catastrophe? Do you see any specific solution to restore the unity of Arab solidarity and to return Egypt to the Arab fold?

[Answer] Egypt has supported Prince Fahd's proposals, despite the fact that it is still negotiating with Israel within the context of the Camp David accords. However, the plan that Prince Fahd announced is not incompatible with the ultimate goal, which Egypt is aiming at. However, this must first be crystallized within the framework of the Arab League, and Egypt does not now participate in Arab League or summit conference actions. Accordingly, we must talk about what Egypt can do, for its part, to restore things as they were before Egypt's ouster from the Arab League. I believe that there is a possibility, if the Arabs can arrive at a unified position.

If the fear is that at the next summit conference, when Prince Fahd's plan is discussed, another schism will result between one faction in support and one opposed, then we will be in a more difficult position than we are now. However, we must find a clear Arab position, no matter what that position is. Whether it is a harsh one or not, we must find this position.

Neutrality Between Moscow and Washington

[Question] Do you see any change in American policy, regarding attempts to solve the Middle East crisis, in President Reagan's administration?

[Answer] There are always positions that we can say are positive to some degree. If American policy depends upon the behavior of the Arab states towards the United States, then there are two factions in the Arab World. One faction calls for opposition to the United States; this is the same one that calls for support for the Soviet Union and for alliance with the Soviet Union. Here is the problem, because the Soviet Union is considered a strategic enemy of the United States. When other Arab states draw close to the Soviet Union and invite the Soviet Union into the region, this of course leads to an opposing position by the United States. The assumption is that the Arab states should be neutral in the dispute between the United States and the Soviet Union. In Oman, we have not seen the Soviet Union give anything to the Arabs that would assist them in regaining their territory. On the contrary, we consider the Soviet Union to be the main problem, because of the permission for the emigration of thousands and thousands of Soviet Jews to occupied Palestine, which causes Israel to hang on to occupied Arab territory and to build more settlements for the Jews coming from the Soviet Union. At the same time, the Soviet Union has not given the Arab states arms that are capable of conquering Israel or of deterring it from carrying out any action.

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CSO: 4404/83

MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE WITH TANZANIA ISSUES JOINT COMMUNIQUE

Khartoum SUNA DAILY BULLETIN in English 20 Dec 81 pp 6-12

[Text] Khartoum, Dec. 20 (SUNA)--The Sudanese-Tanzanian Joint Ministerial Consultative Committee that ended sessions here Friday issued the following Joint Communique which was released yesterday evening simultaneously in Khartoum and Dar es Salam:

Guided by the commitment of the Heads of State of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan and of the United Republic of Tanzania, to maintain and develop the fraternal relations between the two sister countries;

Inspired by the desire to reinforce and strengthen the historical ties of brotherhood and friendship between their respective peoples;

Conscious of the need to promote all round co-operation between their sister countries;

The Sudan/Tanzania Joint Ministerial Consultative Committee held its third meeting in Khartoum from 17th to 18th December, 1981.

The Sudanese side was led by H.E. Saghayroun Elzein State Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

The Tanzanian side was led by H.E. J.J. Mungai, Minister for Agriculture.

A wide range of topics covering areas of mutual interest and co-operation were discussed. The two sides exchanged identical views with regard to regional, continental and international issues of mutual interest and concern to the two countries.

The discussions between the two sides were conducted in an atmosphere of mutual good will, understanding and fraternity.

1. Bilateral Issues

In their review of bilateral relations, both sides expressed satisfaction with the developments so far reached, and reaffirmed their determination to broaden

and deepen these relations and further strengthen the areas of co-operation and consultation in all fields and at all levels.

2. Regional Issues

The two sides reviewed the situation and current developments in the region. In this regard, it was agreed that consultations and contacts between the countries of East and Central Africa would greatly fulfill the vital interests of the people of the region and serve the cause of peace, stability and co-operation for the mutual benefit not only in East Africa, but in the whole continent and the rest of the world.

The Joint Ministerial Consultative Committee conducted its meetings through the two sub-committees set up to consider matters on the agenda concerning:

- a) Irrigation and Agriculture
- b) Political, Economic, Technical and Cultural Co-operation.

The two sides noted with satisfaction the friendly and cordial spirit that prevailed during the deliberations of the sub-committees and hailed the efforts exerted by experts on both sides in bringing their meetings to the desired conclusion. Both sides endorsed the work of the sub-committees and further agreed to pursue the implementation of their recommendations.

A. Irrigation and Agriculture

The meeting reviewed with satisfaction the progress of co-operation in the area of irrigation and agriculture with a view to further promoting and intensifying concerted endeavours in this respect. Both sides have agreed to further exchange technical experience in the fields of irrigation and agriculture, provide opportunities for training in the fields of irrigation design and maintenance, crop production such as tobacco, coffee, tea, kenaf, cotton, forestry and horticultural crops. It was agreed to utilize the Sudanese Engineering Corporations in implementation of irrigation projects in Tanzania.

B. Political, Economic, Technical and Cultural Co-operation

1. General and Higher Education

The two sides noted with satisfaction, the progress made in the exchange programme for scholarships and experts on various fields. The two countries agreed to offer up to six scholarships annually in their respective universities and higher technical institutes.

Recognizing the importance of Kiswahili and Arabic languages, the two sides agreed to exchange students and teaching staff in this respect.

It was further agreed that the two parties would encourage the exchange of text books, educational documentation, pamphlets, periodicals and recorded educational materials.

2. Political Co-operation

In the area of political co-operation, the meeting agreed to further strengthen the existing co-operation between the S.S.U. and the C.C.M. and their respective popular mass organizations. It was also agreed in this connection to exchange visits and experience in rural development and to maintain co-ordination at regional and international fora.

3. Communication and Culture

The meeting agreed to reactivate the existing agreement on communications and culture with particular emphasis on sports, music, folklore, films and exhibitions.

4. Tourism

In the field of tourism, the two sides agreed to explore the possibility of co-operation with a view to promoting and intensifying the tourist exchange between Sudan and Tanzania. To this effect, the Sudanese side submitted a draft agreement on tourism co-operation.

5. Civil Aviation

The two sides appreciated the need for their two Civil Aviation authorities to meet and conclude as soon as possible a bilateral Air Transport Agreement.

6. Trade

The two sides reiterated their determination to develop mutual trade. The Sudanese side proposed a trade protocol based on 1973 Trade Agreement with the objective of reactivating the said Agreement. Both parties further agreed to encourage private and public corporations to visit their respective countries and to participate in trade fairs in Sudan and Tanzania.

7. Visa Abolition Agreement

While reviewing the visa abolition Agreement signed between the two countries in 1972, the two sides noted with satisfaction that the said Agreement has been implemented and come into force in both countries.

H.E. J.J. Mungai, Minister for Agriculture and leader of the Tanzania delegation, expressed profound thanks to the people and Government of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan for the warm and fraternal reception and hospitality accorded to him and his delegation during their entire stay in the Sudan.

The next meeting of the Joint Ministerial Consultative Committee will be held in Dar es Salam; at a date to be fixed through normal diplomatic channels.

Done in Khartoum on December 18, 1981

for
the Government of the Democratic
Republic of the Sudan

H.E. Saghayroun El Zein
State Minister in the
Ministry of Agriculture
and Irrigation

for
the Government of the
United Republic of Tanzania

H.E. J.J. Mungai
Minister for Agriculture

CSO: 4500/86

TRAVELER IN DARFUR DESCRIBES ECONOMIC, SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Cairo AL-WADI in Arabic No 3, Jul 81 pp 56-60

/Article by Hibah 'Anyat: "The Road to Mellit; Road 40 Begins in Kobbei and Ends in Asyut; Water Pumps in Saq al-Na'am Await Sudanese Fuel; Mellit Customs Is Moderate, Assesses Circumstances, and Is Profitable!"/

/Text/ We didn't need to set any particular time. Both of us lived in the same place: the guest house in al-Fashir. We found ample time for conversation in the evenings after he had finished his work at the post he had recently assumed: minister of agriculture and natural resources for Darfur Province.

I asked the young Minister Yusuf Takanah, who is a native of the province, about his plans for agriculture and natural resources in Darfur. He replied simply and frankly: "Agriculture is not my specialty and I understand only its general principles. My university study was economics and political science. For this reason, I formerly worked in the Sudanese Socialist Union."

I said: "This is no obstacle, and perhaps it is preferable. There are many states in which the Ministry of Defense is run by civilians and the Ministry of Interior is run by a minister who is not a police officer. In general, a ministry is a political position."

He said: "I don't disagree with you on this. What I am doing now is some practical study, as is only natural. Perhaps you noted that on the day I arrived in al-Fashir from Khartoum, I went from Fura to Golo where the natural water source on which al-Fashir depends is located to review the situation. Beginning tomorrow I will begin touring a number of areas in the north of the province until Governor Ahmad Ibrahim Durayj arrives. Then I will accompany the governor and several ministers on a tour of Myala, Kas, Zalingei, Jabal Murrah, and al-Junaynah after which we will return to al-Fashir. This automobile tour will take around a week and will cover hundreds of kilometers. The distances here are long and the roads are unpaved with the exception of a short section from Myala to Kas. In fact, we exaggerate when we call some of the roads here roads because they are really nothing more than sandy stretches in the desert. You could experience that yourself if you were to go to Saw al-Na'am or Mellit. The road projects in Darfur are still at the beginning stage and we do not expect them to be completed in the near future. The land area of Darfur is one-fifth of Sudan's total land area, or 321,600 square kilometers, to be exact."

I said: "What about after the tour?"

He said: "I am thinking about visiting Egypt and America to learn about modern means of agriculture, particularly in desert areas. North Darfur is part of the great African desert. With the exception of the highlands and the mountains which are interspersed with wadis, most of the land area of the province is desert and turns into clay as you go south down to the border between Darfur and Bahr al-Ghazal Province in the Southern Region. We rely on rainfall as the primary source of drinking water for humans and animals and water for agriculture. After rainwater comes groundwater and water from artesian and surface wells. In fact, some people store water inside (tabaladi) trees wherever they are available for use during times of drought. This is the picture, and it is on this basis that we are planning for the development of agriculture in the region."

I asked provincial Minister Yusuf Takanah: "Agricultural development in Darfur may require the support or participation of international organizations or other governments. Do you sign direct agreements with these agencies. Or in other words, is a provincial government permitted to receive aid or assistance or sign agreements with foreign agencies without consulting the central government in Khartoum?"

Yusuf Takanah replied: "The provincial government came into being to function under the authority of the central government. The situation is still in the initial stage, and we trust the central government just as the central government trusts the regional governments. I believe that within the framework of the general principles and the national plan, the regional governments can establish relations with other parties. The Southern Region actually preceded us in doing this. In service to the cause of development, all regions of Sudan welcome foreign aid as well as investment projects which further development from any source. Don't forget that the idea of regional government originally developed with the goal of developing Sudan."

I said: "What areas of Egypt do you intend to visit?"

He said: "At present I do not know exactly. However, as I said, my purpose is to learn about agriculture in sandy areas where water is scarce as well as modern experiments in agriculture. Being an Egyptian, you may know about this better than I do. Egypt has a deep-rooted agriculture. Those whom we in this area call sons of the country came from Egypt. And in Mellit, you can see small farms that irrigate with shadufs which the people learned about from Egypt. Incidentally, the relations between Darfur Province and Egypt are more extensive than you might imagine. These relations go back to the time of the Fur sultans prior to the French invasion of Egypt."

Our conversation went on to cover a variety of subjects. But the thing that captured my attention the most was his discussion of the historical relations between Darfur and Egypt. His remarks made me seek to learn more about these relations. We continued talking until almost midnight. Then each of us retired to his own room because he had much work to do the following morning and I had my own schedule beginning early the next day.

Saq al-Na'am

At 0800 in the morning the stinging rays of the sun indicated that the day would be a hot one. Yusuf Hasan 'Abbas, assistant to the governor for culture and information, was late for our scheduled appointment. I occupied myself with looking at the sand paths in the guest house garden trying to identify the tracks of the creatures that had passed during the previous night, making use of what I had learned from the gardener. These are the tracks of a polecat (a weasel-like animal), these are the tracks of a hedgehog, these belong to a crow, and these to a dove. But what is this? A long line. Could it be the track of a snake? I began following it to the other side of the building and found that it ended at the garden hose. I am sure that if I had seen that track anywhere else it would not have attracted my attention. But it is the atmosphere of the place, along with the imagination.

"Hey Hibah, where are you?"

This was the voice of Yusuf Hasan. I hurried to meet him, asking: "Is everything okay? Are there any problems or obstacles?" He said: "No, not at all. There is no 'problem.' We were late because of gasoline."

We set off in the Land Rover over the sandy streets of al-Fashir to begin our trip to Saq al-Na'am. The road began amid desert with no landmarks except for a few trees here and there and volcanic mountains in the distance. We passed by gullies formed by the previous autumn's rains, crossing them if they were small, circling around them if they were deep. Mirages appeared before us in the distance under the glare of the scorching sun. The shadows of objects were reflected under the intense sun, making the scene appear as a vast lake. After about an hour and a half we began to see some trees and cultivated land. Yusuf said: "We have arrived. This is the project in front of us." We stopped at the project rest station where a number of workers live. We immediately entered into a discussion of the project. I discovered that these young men could find work to do only part of the time. The project is confronted with a basic problem: a lack of fuel to power the pumps that draw the water from underground at a depth of 30, 50 or even 60 meters where the underground water reservoir is located. The capacity of the reservoir is estimated at 100 billion cubic meters with an annual discharge rate of 200 to 658 million cubic meters.

The area occupied by the project is 184,000 feddans, most of which is clayey soil. Some 156,000 feddans of this area has been reclaimed. Since 1973, the project has experimented with growing corn, wheat, sesame, vegetables, citrus fruits, and a new plant imported from America called aloe which yields a heavy oil.

During my tour, it was naturally evident to me that the only crops still in cultivation at the project were some small citrus trees and the aloe plants despite the fact that there were 27 high-capacity pumps distributed over the project area. Only 10 of these pumps were in operation, and these only for a limited time every 2 or 3 weeks in order to maintain the few crops that remained.

This fact indicates the importance of the availability of petroleum in Sudan and the hopes that depend on it.

We returned to al-Fashir before sunset to hear some good news. Water had been supplied to the pipes, the faucets, and the shower. I didn't pay any attention to my hunger because I was more in need of a bath than I was of food.

Mellit

We stopped at the market and bought a melon before travelling to Mellit. The road is long, the travelling time is more than 2 hours, and the heat and dryness are not to be underestimated. It was no surprise to us when the wheels of the vehicle got bogged down in the sand in spite of the steering equipment designed to prevent this. We had no choice but to get out of the vehicle and wander through the desert looking for rocks or dead branches to put under the wheels after digging out behind and in front of them. We (Yusuf and I) pushed the vehicle to help the driver get out of the patch of soft sand. Then we resumed the journey maintaining our course as closely as possible by following the tracks of vehicles that had preceded us and using hills and mountains as landmarks to indicate the route.

I asked Yusuf: "How did people travel between these areas before motorized vehicles were used?" He replied: "The people suffered very great hardship. They had no means of transport other than camels and they spent long days and nights on the backs of these animals. You have been preoccupied with the road to Mellit. What do you think about the road to Asyut? The caravans used to leave from Kobbei in this province and travel through the desert on Trail 40 until they reached Asyut in Upper Egypt. And don't imagine that the trip took only 40 days. It was a 40-day journey for a camel without stopping, and of course there had to be stops. The caravan had to rest--both men and camels--at every chance they could, especially at the wells. The average distance covered by the caravan in a day was 30 to 40 kilometers.

"Nor was the journey completely safe. If the travellers escaped sandstorms and drought they may not escape robbers eager for the riches carried by the camels. The caravans to Egypt carried slaves, ivory, wild goat horns, hippopotomas teeth, ostrich feathers, gum, and valley fowl. They returned from Egypt to Darfur carrying Egyptian fabrics, broadcloth, perfumes, carpets, rugs, laundry soap, swords, mirrors, antimony, shoes, writing paper, and anything else produced by Egypt and needed by Darfur. In general, Trail 40 ceased to be a historic landmark because of this vehicle in which we are riding. If we were rocking on the backs of camels, we would reach Mellit in a matter of days!"

We stopped at a group of huts and primitive shelters. We--and even more so the car--were in need of relief from the blaze of the sun. We sought this relief from the melon followed by the tea offered by the modest cafe. The vehicle also got some good from the water in the refrigerator which we used to cool down the boiling water in the engine. After this we continued our trip.

Mellit is an oasis despite its houses, shops, and vehicles. It is essentially a green spot amid an ocean of yellow sand. But the most unusual thing in Mellit is the customs. Mellit is not near the border, but is located almost in the middle of Darfur. It is a stopping place for the trucks bringing goods from Libya, although it is actually closer to Chad. There is nothing to prevent the trucks from skirting the customs and heading in any direction they want. However, they go to the customs office voluntarily. For this reason, the customs office deals with them in a friendly manner and is usually tolerant with them. This allows them to earn an average monthly income of more than 40,000 pounds. When the goods are released after payment of customs duties, they are reloaded onto the trucks and then unloaded again in yards of the merchants' houses to be sold in the local market or shipped to other cities, sometimes reaching as far as Khartoum.

In Mellit, you can buy anything ranging from electric refrigerators, televisions, video systems, and tape recorders, to Pyrex and Melamine dishware, thermos bottles, blankets, and fabrics, to perfumes, tea and cigarettes. All of these are, of course, imported goods which are completely out of keeping with the appearance of the small and humble town. It is the logic of merchants to sell people what they want to sell, not what the people really need.

However, this vital activity in the commercial field has not overtaken agriculture. The shadufs still draw water from underground to irrigate the vegetable fields and fruit orchards and provide the people with sufficient food.

In Mellit, there are schools for boys and girls and a small factory for hand-made rugs and carpets employing mostly young women. There is a technical training institute for young women where the students learn how to make leather purses and weave rugs and carpets from natural wool thread. These rugs are almost exact replicas of the rugs made in the governorate of Asyut in Egypt. Specifically, the rug pattern is the Bani 'Adi rug /kilim/ in which Coptic decorative motifs are represented. Naturally, I inquired about this resemblance. The response came quickly: "We used to have teachers from Asyut! And before that, in the old days, the Asyut rugs came to Darfur on Trail 40."

We had to return to al-Fashir on the same day. The visit was short and unsatisfying. In fact, it left me in greater perplexity. Sudan is an astonishing place. Every time I assume that my knowledge of Sudan has increased, I find that the scope of my ignorance has actually grown wider. This quick visit is sufficient proof of that. I had not imagined that a relationship existed between Egypt and Darfur similar to that between Egypt and the Nile provinces in Sudan.

On the way back, the only thing that Yusuf Hasan and I discussed was the ancient relationship between Egypt and Darfur. He was very enthusiastic about the subject, despite the fact that he is a native of Northern Province.

How did the Fur sultans deal with Egypt in the days of Napoleon and Muhammad 'Ali Pasha the Great, the years of Turkish rule, and the years of bilateral rule? This is a short question that demands a long answer. I will leave it for the next discussion.

BRIEFS

RURAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE COMPANY--Khartoum, Dec. 10 (SUNA)--Establishment of a Sudanese rural development finance company was announced at a press conference here yesterday. The documents of the newly-established company were signed by Board Chairman of the Sudanese Development Corporation, Mohamed Abdel Magid Ahmed, Commonwealth Development Authority and the French Central Bank for Economic Cooperation. At the signing ceremony, Ahmed lauded the foreign delegations' contribution towards the establishment of the company which, he said, would be a step towards economic development in the Sudan. He voiced thanks to the governments of France, Federal Germany and European Economic Community (EEC) for their cooperation in this respect. The representatives of the foreign companies, meanwhile, gave an outline of their companies and expressed readiness for joint cooperation. Speaking to SUNA, Ahmed said the company is a holding one comprising three companies being contributed to by Sudan Government, Bank of Sudan, Sudan International Bank, Unity Bank and Khartoum Bank. The first company, according to Ahmed, is assigned to lay down general policies and to conduct national and international contacts; the second company is to prepare and study projects; and the third is a rural development finance company. The initial capital of the company amounts to L.s 10 million, Ahmed said. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA DAILY BULLETIN in English 10 Dec 81 pp 2-3]

TAX ON WORKERS ABROAD--The income tax collected by the Tax Dept. from the Sudanese nationals working abroad during the period Nov. 15-Dec. 15, reached \$ 1,231,829, SUNA learnt. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA DAILY BULLETIN in English 26 Dec 81 p 7]

LOAN FROM PRC--Khartoum, Dec. 17 (SUNA)--The Chinese government has agreed to extend an equivalent of 57 million dollars loan to the Sudan, according to Assistant Secretary of Economic and Social Affairs Department Omar Taha Abu Samra. Abu Samra said the loan was interest-free and redeemable over ten years with ten years grace period. The loan will be utilized in rehabilitation of Medani-Gedarif road, ready-made clothes factory and an institute for vocational training. He added that China had agreed to increase the loan if the cost of the said projects goes beyond the 57 million dollars. Another agreement on cultural affairs was also reached with the Chinese authorities during the recent visit of First Vice-President Gen. Abdel Magid Hamid Hkalil. The Director of Asia Department, Foreign Ministry, Abdel Moneim Mustafa said China had agreed to offer 20 scholarships annually for science, drama and music studies, in addition to the provision of teachers for physical education. According to Mustafa, the two countries had agreed to the organizing of cultural exhibitions in the two capitals. He added

that a Chinese acrobatic band would visit the Sudan during 1982. The two sides had agreed to introduce any new items that would strengthen cultural relations during the validity of the programme. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA DAILY BULLETIN in English 17 Dec 81 pp 11-12]

WATER PUMPS--Medani--The Government of the Central Region has contracted with a Danish Company for the purchase of 325 pumps for the water stations in the region. The L.s. 3.5 million contract includes an overall evaluation of the water services in the region. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA DAILY BULLETIN in English 16 Dec 81 p 11]

JUBA AIRPORT CONTRACT--Khartoum, Dec. 16 (SUNA)--The French C.C.I. company signed a deal here yesterday for constructing Juba new airport. The company will build the runways, hangars and the main building at L.S.10,878,723, within a period of 24 months starting at the end of this month. Contractors of lighting works and installation of aviation equipment will be named in the next few weeks. The project's over-all cost reaches \$29.4 million, of which an equivalent of 22.3 million unit of account is provided by the EEC while Sudan government cushions L.S.3.5 million in local currency. The deal was signed by Minister of Finance and Economic Planning Ibrahim Moneim Mansour, Mr. Charlier, C.C.I. representative and John Mace the E.E.C. representative here. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA DAILY BULLETIN in English 16 Dec 81 p 3]

INDIAN BANK FUNDS PROJECTS--Khartoum, Dec. 15 (SUNA)--An initial agreement has been signed recently between the Indian Industrial Development Bank and the Sudanese Industrial Bank, said the Director General of the Industrial Bank Hassan Ahmed Mekki yesterday, following his return from India. According to the agreement the Indian Bank will offer a \$ 10 million facility to the Sudanese Industrial Bank to import Indian-made machinery and equipment, he added. Further on, he briefed the management of the Indian Bank on his Bank's working plan for the upcoming two years aimed at funding of industrial projects in Khartoum and regions to the rengect \$ 15 million. It is worth mentioning that Mekki left Khartoum on Nov. 29 on a ten-day visit to India, during which he was familiarized with a number of Indian medium industries and crafts in order to benefit from Indian experience in this regard. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA DAILY BULLETIN in English 15 Dec 81 p 5]

PRC FUNDS SHOE FACTORY--Khartoum, Dec. 13 (SUNA)--People's China will establish a shoe factory in Sudan as part of the agreement signed by the two countries December 10. The First Vice-President had visited, during his recent visit to China, Shoe and Shirt factories in Shanghai and praised their high quality products which are exported to some 40 countries around the world. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA DAILY BULLETIN in English 13 Dec 81 p 2]

RICE PROJECT PROGRESS--Ed Dueim, Dec. 12 (SUNA)--The cost of the 35,000-feddan Japan-financed rice farm project in Ed Dueim has reached nine million dollars, including the equipment and the farm's installations. Some 250 feddans has now been cultivated as an experimental stage and the production of this year is estimated at 110,000 tonnes of white rice. The Sudan will be able to satisfy its needs of rice, and export to Arab countries after the year 1983, in which the production of the farm is expected to reach 800,000 tonnes. Ed Dueim rice

farm project is being carried out by one of the big companies in Japan that has offshoots in Somalia, Tanzania, the Sudan, Upper Volta and Ethiopia. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA DAILY BULLETIN in English 12 Dec 81 p 3]

DAIRY PROJECT PLANNED--Khartoum, Dec. 12 (SUNA)--The Arab Authority for Agricultural Development (A.A.A.D.) has finalized a feasibility study of a dairy farm project at El-Rahad Agricultural Scheme. The Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry approved the study and arrangements are underway for acquiring the needed finance for the project. The study has recommended that the project be implemented by the farmers through cooperative basis to the cost of L.S. 12 millions, or through a joint venture between the farmers and a commercial company to the limit of L.S. 25 millions, SUNA learnt. The project which plans to produce 18,000 tons of milk per year, includes the construction of dairy factory, and insurance services for farmers. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA DAILY BULLETIN in English 12 Dec 81 p 2]

RELATIONS WITH NIGERIA--Khartoum, Dec. 11 (SUNA)--Sudan and Nigeria jointly could play an effective role in the World in general and in Africa in particular, said the Nigerian President Shehu Shagari at a meeting with Chief Justice and Chairman of the Supreme Court Khalafalla El Rasheed during his recent visit to Nigeria. Shagari further hailed the Nigerian-Sudanese relations. Commenting on the outcome of his visit to Nigeria El Rasheed said that he visited a number of Nigerian states where he met with judges and familiarized himself with judiciary procedures therein. On the other hand, he praised the great role played by the Sudanese teachers in Nigeria and noted to the role Sudan could play in propagating Arabic language in that African country. He concluded that, the visit came in the context of a judicial exchange programme which aims at getting acquainted with judiciary systems in Arab and African countries. Similar visits have been paid to Egypt, Arab Republic of Yemen, Abu Dahbi, Qatar and Libya. The first visit to African non-Arab state was to Nigeria in reply to a visit by a Nigerian judiciary delegation to the Sudan three years ago. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA DAILY BULLETIN in English 11 Dec 81 p 5]

TERRORIST THREAT TO EMBASSIES--Khartoum, Dec. 10 (SUNA)--Libyan-backed terrorists were plotting to hit Sudanese diplomatic missions abroad, said an authoritative source at the Foreign Ministry Wednesday. The source disclosed that Sudanese embassies in Kuwait, Washington and Bonn had received threats from terrorist groups. He said that the plot, which is to be backed by the Libyan regime, was worked out at a meeting the terrorists held in Vienna recently. The plot was also directed against a diplomatic mission of a sister state, he said. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA DAILY BULLETIN in English 10 Dec 81 p 9]

ELECTRICITY PROJECTS--Khartoum, Dec. 10 (SUNA)--Electricity projects in Shendi, Dongola, Wau and El Fasher will complete in the first half of the next year, SUNA learnt. Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Ibrahim Moneim Mansour, received yesterday H.E. the Danish Charge d'Affaires. The Danish diplomat was acquainted with progress of work in these projects and at Mengala Agro-Industrial complex which are being financed by the Danish government at 100 million Krones (\$15 million) and \$10 million respectively. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA DAILY BULLETIN in English 10 Dec 81 p 5]

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UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

BRIEFS

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION INCREASE--The annual report on agriculture in the UAE has revealed an increase in arable land there and a growth percentage of 232 percent during the period from 1973 to 1980. There were 4940 agricultural holdings in 1973, and 11,400 at the end of 1980. The report referred to the differences in agricultural production in the UAE from one area to another, since self-consumption forms more than 30 percent of production. The report revealed that about half of the arable land holdings in the state were owned by persons who are not basically farmers.
[Text] [Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 19 Oct 81 p 8] 7005

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